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CONTENTS

ARMS CONTROL & DISARMAMENT

Zagladin on Missile Removal, INF Ratification 1
Korolev Cites 'New, Secret' U.S. Missile 1
Perez de Cuellar Opens Disarmament Conference 1
'Favorable' Climate 1
Pentagon 'Demanding Compensation' for INF Cuts *[Glazunov]* 2
Kalyagin on Senatorial Efforts To 'Torpedo' INF 2
Palenykh Summarizes Nevada Test Site Visit 3
Test Site Visits Show 'Differences in Emphasis' *[Bogachev]* 3
Nazarkin Calls U.S. 'Main Obstacle' at CW Talks *[IZVESTIYA 2 Feb]* 4
General Lobov Assesses Northern Security *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 29 Jan]* 5
MSZMP's Szuros Presents Three-Party Initiative *[PRAVDA 23 Jan]* 7

COMMUNIST RELATIONS

CEMA Executive Committee Session Opens 9
Rohlicek, Delegation To Attend *[Prague TV]* 9
New Secretariat Structure *[CTK]* 9
CEMA Transport Commission Meets in Prague 9
'Friendship-88' Exercises Begin in Hungary 9

WORLDWIDE ISSUES

Gerasimov Announces Shevardnadze-Shultz Meeting 10
28 Jan Foreign Ministry Briefing Reviewed *[IZVESTIYA 30 Jan]* 10
NATO To Hold 'Arrowhead Express-88' Maneuvers 10
Rybakov in New Zealand Praises Antarctic Treaty 11
Chazov Cites Statistics at London AIDS Parley *[PRAVDA 30 Jan]* 11
Further Chazov Comments 11
Human Rights Resolution To Be Presented at UN 12
Further on Helsinki Human Rights Colloquium *[PRAVDA 25 Jan]* 12
Burlatskiy Remarks Noted *[IZVESTIYA 29 Jan]* 14
Adamishin Receives Group 15
Soviet Attitude 'Changed' *[Vienna NEUE AZ 30 Jan]* 16
Visit Comes to 'Strange End' *[Stockholm]* 16
UN Resolution on Mideast 'Blocked' by U.S. Veto 16

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

United States & Canada

Shevardnadze, Shultz To Meet in Moscow 21-23 Feb 18
U.S. Aide Linked to Tatar 'Extremists' *[Sashin in SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 1 Feb]* 18
Calgary 'Hotline' for Defectors a 'Provocation' *[Georgiyev in SOVETSKIY SPORT 28 Jan]* 18
Reaction 'Uncomplimentary' *[SOVETSKIY SPORT 31 Jan]* 19
Opposition Voiced on U.S. Funding of Contras *[Shekhovtsov]* 20
Reagan Remarks 'Attack' Sandinist Government 20
U.S. Seeking 'Separate' Middle East Peace Plan *[Gavrilov]* 21
More on Reagan-Mubarak White House Talks 21
U.S., Angola Open New Round of Talks 21
Angola Stand 'Reaffirmed' 22

Jubilee of USSR-U.S. Cultural Agreement Marked 22
Culture Minister Comments *[SOVETSKAYA KULTURA 26 Jan]* 22
Gorbachev Sends Greetings *[PRAVDA 28 Jan]* 23
Shevardnadze Holds Reception *[PRAVDA 28 Jan]* 24
State Department Ceremony 24
Fishing Consultations With U.S. Held in Moscow *[IZVESTIYA 1 Feb]* 24
Meeting Ends in Agreement 25
UPI Cited on U.S. Delta Rocket Test Launch 25
Korniyenko on Group's Visit to U.S. Congress 25
Carlucci Supports Missile Modernization Program 26
Cranston, Nitze Rebut Helms at INF Hearings *[PRAVDA 30 Jan]* 26
U.S. Ultra-Right May Hinder INF Ratification *[V. Solovyev]* 26
TV Film on Washington Summit Reviewed *[PRAVDA 24 Jan]* 27
Senator Paul Simon's Nomination Chances Assessed
[Volovets in SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 23 Jan] 28

China

Border Talks To Continue in Beijing in April 29
Talks End in Moscow 29
Rogachev Meets Chinese Delegation 29
Joint Border Trade Contract Signed in Nakhodka *[EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA No 4]* 30
Pentagon Listing PRC as Enemy Decried *[Shakov]* 30
U.S. Military Presence on Okinawa Viewed 30
Kudin on Normalizing SRV-PRC Relations 31
Youth Daily Notes PRC Student Travel Abroad *[KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA 22 Jan]* 31

Northeast Asia

Soviet Official Urges Japanese Joint Ventures *[KYODO]* 32
Japan-U.S. Command Exercise Deplored 33
U.S. Sanctions 'Affront to Sovereignty' *[PRAVDA 28 Jan]* 34
DPRK Denounces U.S.-ROK 'Team Spirit' Exercises 34

Southeast Asia & Pacific

Aquino Replies to Gromyko, Agrees to Visit *[PRAVDA 28 Jan]* 34
PRK Politburo Discusses Hun Sen-Sihanouk Talks 34
Lizichev Leaves for Southeast Asian Visits *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 29 Jan]* 35
Laos Condemns Thai Border Conflict 'Escalation' 35
Gusev Witnesses Launching of SRV GES Unit 35
Briefs 36
Contracts With PRK 36

Near East & South Asia

Iraqi Foreign Minister Arrives in Moscow 36
Meets With Ryzhkov 36
More on Ryzhkov Meeting 36
U.S.-Israeli Military Agreement Denounced *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 24 Jan]* 37
Israeli 'Terror' Likened to 'Nazi Crimes' 37
DFLP's Hawatimah Interviewed in Moscow 38
Mideast Conference Seen as 'Sole Real' Help 38
Foreign Ministry Official Visits Tunisia 39
UN's Cordovez Meets With Najibullah, Wakil 39
Departs Kabul for Islamabad 39
Duties of Destroyer 'Stoykiy' in Gulf Related *[SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA 17 Jan]* . 39
Briefs 41
Libyan Ambassador Departs 41

Sub-Saharan Africa

Crocker Visit to Angola Arouses 'Hopes' *[Pavlov in IZVESTIYA 29 Jan]* 41
'Expert' Denies Chemical Weapon Use by Angola 42
Supreme Soviet Delegation Ends Visit to Ghana 42

East Europe

Gorbachev To Make First Official SFRY Visit *[AFP]* 43
BCP Conference Opens, Approves Terms of Office 43
Zhivkov Opening Remarks *[PRAVDA 29 Jan]* 44
Poland Raises Prices, Compensates Workers *[IZVESTIYA 1 Feb]* 46
Soviet-Polish Space Experiment Completed 46
Polish Leaders Receive Broadcasting Official 47
Horeni Presents Jakes Message to Amity Group *[RUDE PRAVO 27 Jan]* 47

West Europe

Britain's Howe To Visit USSR Mid-February 48
Preliminary Results of Finnish Elections Noted 48
Swedish Energy Minister on Moscow Talks *[IZVESTIYA 29 Jan]* 48
Franco-West German Military Rapprochement Viewed *[IZVESTIYA 25 Jan]* 49
Italian CP Leader on F-16 Transfer to Italy 50
Nicaragua's Ortega Speaks at Rome Briefing 50
Austria's Vranitzky on INF Treaty, Peace 51
Turkish CP Leaders 'Cruelly Tortured' in Jail *[PRAVDA 23 Jan]* 51

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

Political & Social

'Presumed Text' of 21 Oct Yeltsin Speech *[Paris LE MONDE 2 Feb]* 52
Leaders Address Economic Studies Course *[PRAVDA 24 Jan]* 53
Biryukova Tour of Turkmenia Described 54
Arrives in Ashkhabad *[Ashkhabad TURKMENSKAYA ISKRA 19 Jan]* 54
Visits Factories *[PRAVDA 24 Jan]* 54
Party CC Criticizes Kiev Party Organization *[PRAVDA 31 Jan]* 55
Stavropol Kraykom Plenum on Restructuring *[SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 26 Jan]* 57
Azerbaijan Central Committee Plenum Reported *[Baku BAKINSKIY RABOCHIY 24 Jan]* 59
Seventh Artists' Congress Completes Work *[PRAVDA 23 Jan]* 59
Uzbek Foreign Relations Commission Meets *[Tashkent]* 60
Yaroslavl Toxic Spill Cleaned Up; Railway Open 60
10 Workers Hospitalized 61
Pipeline Explosions Blamed on 'Gross Negligence' *[IZVESTIYA 31 Jan]* 61
Medical Impact of Chernobyl Accident Described 62
Komsomol CC Secretary on Youth Problems 63
Religious Affairs Chief on Status of Religion *[IZVESTIYA 27 Jan]* 63
Exemplary Conduct by Communists Exhorted *[PRAVDA 26 Jan]* 65
Readers Ponder Interethnic Relations *[IZVESTIYA 25 Jan]* 67
Reader Calls for Clampdown on 'Parasites' *[PRAVDA 29 Jan]* 68
Estonian Historian Counters VOA View of Origins 69
Volkogonov on 'Cruelty,' 'Tragedy' of Stalin 69

Economic

Slyunkov, Others Address Party Secretaries 71
Rytov Says State Acceptance 'Coping Quite Well' *[IZVESTIYA 23 Jan]* 71

Zagladin on Missile Removal, INF Ratification
LD021450 Moscow TASS in English 1435 GMT 2 Feb 88

[Text] Moscow January 2 TASS—"We appraise the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate-Range and Shorter-Range Missiles as a very important document and will be striving for its approval, ratification and complete fulfilment in all its aspects", said Vadim Zagladin, secretary of the Commission for Foreign Affairs of the Soviet of the Union, one of the chambers of Soviet Parliament, of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

Speaking at a briefing in the press centre of the USSR Foreign Ministry today, he noted that the USSR Council of Ministers, having discussed the treaty, referred it for cosideration to the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet. The Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet referred the treaty for the judgement of the commissions for foreign affairs of the Soviet of the Union and the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

Answering questions from reporters, Vadim Zagladin said that there will hardly be any amendments to the treaty. He said that, to his mind, questions of reliability of the control over the observance of the terms of the treaty, as well as its impact on the ensurance of the USSR's security will attract special attention in the process of ratification.

Vadim Zagladin said that Soviet missiles will be withdrawn from the GDR and Czechoslovakia before the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate-Range and Shorter-Range Missiles goes into effect. This is a gesture of goodwill by the USSR, the GDR, and Czechoslovakia who wish by this act to confirm the absolute seriousness of their attitude to the treaty and utter resolve to fully comply with all its conditions.

He noted that the debates in the committees of the U.S. Senate are closely followed in the USSR and that their course will be taken into consideration. But the commissions of the Supreme Soviet will be proceeding above all from the Soviet Union's own interests and requirements.

Korolev Cites 'New, Secret' U.S. Missile
LD020832 Moscow TASS in English 0817 GMT 2 Feb 88

[Text] New York February 2 TASS—TASS correspondent Aleksandr Korolev reports:

The Pentagon is busy developing a new kind of weapon—a high-altitude interceptor missile under the "Star Wars" program in an atmosphere of utter secrecy.

The U.S. journal "INSIGHT" writes that the small missiles capable of developing a 15-mach speed (15 times as high as the speed of sound) will be ground-launched and will hit enemy warheads when they enter the earth's atmosphere in the final leg of their flight path.

The magazine points out that the new weapon is being developed by the McDonnell Douglas Corporation which assigned 310 million dollars for these purposes for the next five years.

The first test flight of a new interceptor missile is scheduled for December this year.

Perez de Cuellar Opens Disarmament Conference
LD021214 Moscow TASS in English 1135 GMT 2 Feb 88

[Text] Geneva February 2 (TASS)—The 1988 Session of the Conference on Disarmament opened in the Geneva Palace of Nations today. In his message to the session the United Nations Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar noted that the session's work is beginning in a more propitious political environment. There has been a noticeable improvement in the general tone of relations between states, the message said. "Without doubt, the most significant step forward last year has been the agreement between the Soviet Union and the United States on the Elimination of Intermediate and Short-Range Missiles", Javier Perez de Cuellar stated in his message.

The United Nations secretary general expressed hope that "the current negotiations on the reduction of strategic arms will soon yield the results expected by world public opinion and open possibilities of cooperation by all nuclear-weapon states".

The participants in the session - the delegations of 40 countries - will continue the discussion of such topical questions as the prohibition of chemical weapons, the ending of nuclear tests, nuclear disarmament and prevention of the militarisation of outer space.

'Favorable' Climate
LD020609 Moscow TASS in English 0559 GMT 2 Feb 88

[Text] Geneva February 2 TASS—TASS correspondent Yevgeniy Korzhev reports:

A regular session of the conference on disarmament opens today in the Palace of Nations here. Delegations of 40 member countries will again take their seats at the negotiating table in the grand conference hall. The agenda of the session includes major and topical items, such as the termination of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament, the nuclear test ban, the prevention of a nuclear war and of the militarization of outer space, the banning of chemical weapons and so on.

Speaking at a press conference Miljan Komatina, secretary general of the conference and personal representative of the U.N. secretary general, pointed out an extremely favourable international climate in which the session was convened. Conditions have emerged for a decisive breakthrough in the sphere of disarmament, he

said. This was promoted, in the first place, by the result of the December meeting in Washington of the Soviet and American leaders who signed a truly historic document, the Treaty on the Elimination of Medium- and Shorter-Range Missiles. We should take advantage of other opportunities that opened up as a result of the work of the Stockholm conference and at the talks on the banning of chemical weapons, as well as everybody's desire for a political stabilization in the world.

Pentagon 'Demanding Compensation' for INF Cuts
LD291648 Moscow World Service in English 1410 GMT 29 Jan 88

[Viktor Glazunov commentary]

[Text] The legislatures of the Soviet Union and the United States are considering the ratification of the INF Treaty. At the same time the Pentagon has submitted to Congress a report on the consequences of the treaty. Our observer, Viktor Glazunov, has contributed the following commentary. This is what he writes:

The position of the United States is rather mind boggling. Which way is the country moving? From the Soviet-U.S. INF Treaty one would think along the path of disarmament, from the Pentagon report it's the opposite direction, towards rearmament. The upshot of the report is that elimination of U.S. Pershing-2 and cruise missiles is to be compensated for. An outsider could conclude that the United States had to eliminate more missiles under the treaty than the USSR. But the fact is that the Soviet Union is eliminating 2 and 1/2 times more missiles than the United States.

Still it's the Pentagon that's demanding compensation and that concerns both nuclear and conventional arms. The war department is asking allocations for developing a new tactical nuclear missile system and for the deployment in Europe by NATO of air based cruise missiles. That actually means replacing one kind of nuclear weapon by another, and that's not all. Other compensation measures are envisaged in conventional arms. They're talking of developing clever [as heard] arms based on the latest technology.

This amounts to a very strange situation. The Soviet Union is eliminating its medium- and shorter-range missiles and the United States is preparing meanwhile to substitute new missiles for the old ones. In fact the Soviet Union is disarming, and the United States is rearming. And as to any excuse for such a policy the stale argument is used of the superiority of the Soviet Union and its allies in conventional arms. This is a nonexistent superiority in the opinion of many defense experts. What does exist is no more than asymmetry in the armaments of the Warsaw Treaty countries and NATO. We are for removing the asymmetry and not through new armaments but through slashing the surpluses. The goal should be disarmament and a balance of forces at a lower level.

Kalyagin on Senatorial Efforts To 'Torpedo' INF
LD311917 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1500 GMT 31 Jan 88

[From the "International Panorama" program presented by Political Observer Boris Kalyagin]

[Text] Hello, comrades! This week hearings began in the Senate of the U.S. Congress on the ratification of the Soviet-U.S. Treaty on Eliminating Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles. According to the U.S. Constitution, the Senate is empowered with practically unrestricted rights regarding international agreements submitted to it. It can drag out consideration of them, introduce amendments, or refuse ratification of them altogether, as was the case with the Salt II treaty. It is true to say that the present situation is different. The leading administration officials who submitted the present treaty stress its historic importance and point out that it could initiate a new stage in the arms control [kontrol] process. Admiral Crowe, U.S. joint chiefs of staff chairman, declared on behalf of the commanders of all branches of the U.S. Armed Forces that the treaty is sensible from a military viewpoint and corresponds to the interests of the United States. His words have a weighty ring to them.

There is only a small group of ultra right-wing Republican Senators against the treaty. They are no more than 15 in number, clearly not enough to vote down the treaty; for that, the votes of at least 34 senators would be needed, or one third of the members of the chamber. Therefore, the opponents of the treaty are set on resorting to various tactical maneuvers. They intend, in particular, to submit amendments of a pseudo-patriotic nature, which would bind the adoption of the treaty to a solution of other international problems. These proposals have been christened killer amendments, insofar as some of them could effectively torpedo the agreement, which would require new Soviet-U.S. negotiations to be held. Jesse Helms, leader of the ultra rightists, is exerting particular efforts. He has even circulated a 180-page memorandum which gathers together all possible and impossible arguments against adopting the treaty, including accusations that the Soviet Union is allegedly deceiving the United States. Examination of everything included in the memorandum could drag out the consideration. Nevertheless, U.S. observers are of the opinion that there are enough supporters of the treaty in the Senate to ensure its ratification.

The treaty is important not only in itself, as a measure to reduce nuclear arsenals. It will also promote a general improvement in the situation. There has not been such a rash of exchanges of delegations and contacts in the most diverse areas of life in our relations with the United States for a very long time.

Palenykh Summarizes Nevada Test Site Visit

LD021514 Moscow TASS in English 1453 GMT 2 Feb 88

[Text] Moscow February 2 TASS—"During their stay in Nevada from January 25 to 30 the Soviet specialists were acquainted with the organisation and conduct of work at the American nuclear test site, including with various stages of the preparation and staging of tests", it was stated today by Igor Palenykh, the leader of the delegation of Soviet specialists who visited the American nuclear test site in Nevada. "The American side demonstrated its technology and equipment. Soviet and American specialists had an all-round discussion of hydrodynamic and seismic methods of measuring the yields of nuclear explosions".

"The agreement on the mutual visits to the test sites in Semipalatinsk and Nevada was reached within the framework of talks between the leaders of the two powers in Washington last December. The USSR and the United States agreed to conduct as quickly as possible a joint experiment to work out improved measures of verifying compliance with the 1974 treaty on the limitation of underground nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes, which have not been ratified to this day because the American side believes they do not provide for sufficient verification".

"The experiment provides for possible measurements at each other's test sites of one or two explosions with a yield of not less than 100 milotons and approaching 150 kilotons so as to determine the most acceptable combination of verification measures which could be used for verifying provisions of the 1974 and 1976 treaties", the Soviet expert said.

"The information and materials obtained by the Soviet delegation during the visit to Nevada are analogous to those received by the American specialists during their visit to Semipalatinsk", Igor Palenykh stressed. "We hope that the familiarisation of Soviet and American specialists with the organisation and conditions of work in the area of Semipalatinsk and in Nevada will make it possible to prepare and conduct a joint experiement in the shortest possible period of time. Work to prepare the experiment will be continued at the second round of the full-scale talks on questions of ending nuclear tests which are to open on February 15".

"While conducting bilateral talks with the United States on questions of nuclear tests we do not withdraw from the agenda the question of the general and complete prohibition of nuclear weapons", the leader of the delegation of Soviet specialists said. "The joint proposals of socialist countries on this question were submitted for consideration by the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva already in the summer of last year".

Test Site Visits Show 'Differences in Emphasis'

LD011736 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1625 GMT 1 Feb 88

[Text] Moscow, 1 Feb (TASS)—TASS military observer Vladimir Bogachev writes:

Commenting on the results of familiarization visits of Soviet and U.S. specialists to the U.S. nuclear test site in Nevada, and accordingly to the USSR test site in the region of Semipalatinsk, the leaders of delegations of the two countries noted unanimously that the exchange of visits took place in an atmosphere of constructive cooperation and assisted in improving understanding of practical problems, connected with the preparation for a joint experiment on verification of the capacity of nuclear explosions.

In summing up the results of the visits, it was also underlined that the planned experiment will assist the U.S. Senate ratification of the Soviet-U.S. agreement of 1974 regarding the limitation of underground testing of nuclear weapons, and the 1976 agreement regarding the underground nuclear tests for peaceful purposes.

At the same time it is impossible not to notice certain differences in emphasis which the delegations were making in evaluating the process which has begun. It is evidently a reflection of as yet different approaches by the sides toward the problem of an all-embracing and total ban on nuclear explosions.

The Soviet side regards the reciprocal trips to the testing grounds primarily as the first necessary step on the way toward limiting both the number and the yield of nuclear test explosions as a measure aimed, in the final analysis, at bringing about the total cessation and banning of explosions. The Soviet scientists stressed the necessity of maintaining the continuity and consistency of the process which has been begun, right up to achieving this chief goal.

The U.S. State Department is focusing attention on preparing for, and in the end conducting, a joint experiment relating to verifying [proverka] the yield of nuclear explosions. Charles Redman, official U.S. State Department spokesman, stressed that the prime aim of the sides is "effective verification" [effektivnaya proverka] of observance of treaties on limiting the yield of underground nuclear explosions and on peaceful explosions. The subsequent tasks of the two countries regarding nuclear explosions are referred to in a more nebulous fashion in the State Department, clearly exaggerating the difficulties over concluding a treaty on a total and universal ban on nuclear tests.

Competent specialists in a broad range of arms control [kontrol] measures, however, are of the opinion that banning explosions is already the most simple and easily-accomplished task now. Joint measures to set the yield of nuclear explosions will undoubtedly make monitoring [kontrol] the conducting of such blasts even more effective.

The main purpose both of reciprocal visits to testing grounds and of the forthcoming experiment is a total ban on nuclear tests, which may be an effective brake on development [sozdaniye] of new, and modernization of old, means of mass destruction.

Nazarkin Calls U.S. 'Main Obstacle' at CW Talks

PM011654 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 2 Feb 88 Morning Edition p 5

[Interview with Yu.K. Nazarkin, head of the Soviet delegation to the chemical weapons talks in Geneva, by own correspondent Yu. Kosinskiy: "The Main Brake Is the U.S. Stance"—date not given; first paragraph is editorial introduction]

[Text] The annual session of the Disarmament Conference begins in Geneva on 2 February; within its framework talks are taking place on the banning of chemical weapons and the text of a convention on the complete banning and destruction of chemical weapons is being negotiated. At the request of IZVESTIYA's own correspondent in Geneva, Yu.K. Nazarkin, head of the Soviet delegation, comments on the state of affairs at the talks.

[Nazarkin] At the talks on banning chemical weapons, individual articles of the future convention, individual formulations, are presently being finalized or amended. At the very beginning of the session of the Disarmament Conference this text will be submitted to it, and after its adoption it will form the basis for further work.

[Kosinskiy] What questions are now at the center of the attention of the participants in the talks?

[Nazarkin] First and foremost it is necessary to finish negotiating the procedure for carrying out inspections on demand. This is a very important part of the system for verification of the future convention. Such inspections will be required to eliminate doubts and suspicions that particular provisions of the document are being violated. Last year, after the Soviet Union came out in favor of carrying out such an inspection on a compulsory basis without the right to refuse the inspectors access to the territory of the state concerning which suspicions have arisen, an agreement in principle was reached on this question. This created a real basis for the successful completion of work on the relevant section of the convention.

I should note one complicating factor. The fact is that the United States still adheres to its old position, stated back in 1984, and in accordance with that position is proposing two types of inspections on demand. The first, in their opinion, should be compulsory, as we too have proposed. But the United States agrees to accept inspections on demand mainly with regard to state enterprises. It is proposed that the majority of private enterprises be subject, in accordance with the U.S. position, to more liberal verification—with the right to refuse access to the verification officials.

Naturally, we cannot agree to an approach which is discriminatory toward us. If it is accepted, all our enterprises, unlike American enterprises, will come under the regime of compulsory inspection on demand. The vast majority of the participants in the talks support our position.

An important question at the talks is to create the conditions to ensure that chemical weapons are not manufactured in commercial industry, either.

[Kosinskiy] What is the crux of this problem?

[Nazarkin] Given the existence of a more or less developed chemical industry, any state can, at will, create chemical weapons comparatively easily on the basis of existing technology. To prevent this, we are drawing up corresponding regimes to restrict the production of chemicals which are potentially dangerous from the viewpoint of their possible use for chemical weapons. But these restrictions must not hamper the development of chemicals for peaceful purposes. The verification principle is this: The more dangerous the chemical, the stricter should be the verification of its production.

There is another thrust to our efforts: agreeing on a procedure for the destruction of chemical weapon stockpiles such that the security of the convention participants is not violated at any stage of the destruction process.

[Kosinskiy] What is the proposed time scale for the destruction of weapons after the adoption of the convention?

[Nazarkin] The time scale has already been agreed: 10 years, or more accurately 9, since the destruction of stockpiles is to begin a year after the convention comes into force. On the expiry of that period no chemical weapons should be left on earth, at least not in the possession of those states that participate in the convention. I hope the convention will be universal.

[Kosinskiy] What are the main obstacles retarding the drafting of the convention?

[Nazarkin] I would unequivocally name first of all the U.S. position. It is the United States which is now retarding the progress of the talks. The fact is that the United States is frozen, so to speak, in its 1984 position. Since that time it has not moved from the spot on a single one of the important questions, although during that time the talks have made considerable progress thanks to the efforts of many other states.

[Kosinskiy] How can you explain the production of a new chemical weapon—binary weapons—which has begun recently in the United States?

[Nazarkin] Let me remind you that the convention being drafted is undoubtedly aimed at banning all types of chemical weapons, including binary weapons. That is the firm position of the Soviet side. Incidentally, the Americans, although they tried to exempt binary weapons from the future ban, now agree, on the whole, to the total banning of chemical weapons, but are trying to postpone as long as possible the moment of completion of the negotiation of the convention so as to have time to manufacture a certain quantity of binary arms. Of course, that is a waste of resources: After all, eventually all chemical weapons must be destroyed under the convention.

The position of the United States in manufacturing a new generation of chemical weapons gives rise to serious suspicions: Is it seriously seeking the conclusion of a convention? Not only we, but also the other participants in the talks are asking that question.

[Kosinskiy] Is there a chance of work on the convention being finished this year?

[Nazarkin] Success will undoubtedly be achieved in work on the convention this year, I am certain of that. After all, we have a good example before us of how that should be done: I mean, first and foremost, the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles. At the talks we set the task of completing work on the convention by the Third UN General Assembly Special Session on Disarmament, which begins 31 May. We hope the draft convention will be examined at that session and made available for signing.

But success depends above all on the desire of all the participants in the talks to conclude a convention. As yet, the United States is not showing such a desire.

Let us hope that Washington finally takes a policy decision regarding the conclusion of a convention on the complete banning and destruction of chemical weapons. The elimination of a very dangerous type of weapon of mass destruction, from which mankind awaits deliverance, depends largely on this.

General Lobov Assesses Northern Security

PM011041 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 29 Jan 88 Second Edition p 3

[Interview with Colonel General V.N. Lobov, first deputy chief of general staff of the USSR Armed Forces, by unnamed correspondent: "North Europe: Strengthening Stability and Security"; date and place not given]

[Text] [Correspondent] In a certain sense northern Europe occupies a peripheral position, it is frequently viewed as a NATO flank. How then to explain the heightened attention which has been paid to this region in recent years?

[Lobov] It is possible to speak of northern Europe's peripheral position only in the relative sense, that is, from the geographical viewpoint. If you have in mind its political and military-strategic significance, then it is hard to overestimate it. Northern Europe is a region where the borders of many states come together and their interests intersect. The attention of both West and East, of both NATO and the Warsaw Pact, is riveted here. This attention has been felt particularly keenly recently.

On the one hand the voice of reason has been heard from the countries of northern Europe, even during the darkest years of the "cold war." It is obviously no accident that the Finnish capital was the symbol of the detente of the seventies and Reykjavik the symbol of the detente of the eighties.

On the other hand, North Europe is a region with which NATO's military designs are linked. An enormous nuclear potential is concentrated on the NATO countries' submarines and surface ships cruising the expanses of the northern seas. In brief, northern Europe's influence on the planet's political climate is very substantial.

The militarist preparations of the United States and several other NATO countries which have been stepped up recently in the Arctic cannot fail to attract attention. This activeness blatantly contradicts the interests of these countries themselves and merely promotes the dangerous growth of military confrontation and the shortage of trust in the region.

[Correspondent] How can the United States' so-called new naval strategy influence the military-political situation in the north of the planet?

[Lobov] The new naval strategy is a component of overall U.S. military strategy and provides for the unprecedented buildup of the U.S. naval forces' military might in all regions of the planet. U.S. Secretary of the Navy J. Webb recently called for this yet again. The thrust of U.S. strategy is to ensure "global forward deployment" from the outset of war.

What do they have in mind? Put simply—ensuring for themselves conditions for delivering a disarming strike against the Soviet Navy before it has time to deploy itself, "locking" it within its own waters or, as Admiral J. Watkins, one of the strategy's authors, said on this subject, "firing at the archer before he can launch his arrows." The aggressive nature of the strategy and its link with the military doctrine of U.S. imperialism thus appears absolutely clearly. As is well-known, the "Strategic Defense Initiative" aimed at destroying Soviet missiles before they can deliver a retaliatory strike is along the same lines. It is thus a case of the Pentagon's desire to achieve military superiority in all spheres: on earth, in space, and on the sea.

Proceeding from this premise there can only be one answer to this question: The new U.S. naval strategy complicates the atmosphere on all hypothetical theaters of hostilities including, of course, the north of the planet. Following the aim of entering into hostilities "as far as possible from their own shores," the U.S. naval forces are strenuously assimilating the waters washing the northern European shores.

It is not only hostilities but even preparation for them which under present conditions is linked with a great risk. There are enough examples of this. We still do not know what the final outcome will be of the accident involving the U.S. B-52 strategic bomber with hydrogen bombs on board which crashed in the region of Thule (Greenland) in 1986. The details of the catastrophe are still being carefully concealed by the Pentagon. Yet 400 Danish workers who took part in the search for fragments of the aircraft received varying doses of radiation.

The dimensions of naval and ground exercises on NATO's northern flank are constantly growing. By a decision of the NATO leadership the "Team Work" maneuvers will be held not once every 4 years but every year. As has already been reported large-scale comprehensive exercises codenamed "Arrowhead Express-88" will be held in northern Norway from 24 February through 24 March. Substantial contingents of troops from seven NATO countries and a large number of ships and aircraft and other combat equipment will be involved in them.

All this, of course, in no way tallies with the Western representatives' statements of their desire to reduce military tension in the north. To transfer these statements to the plane of practical deeds, it is essential to give a positive answer to the USSR's proposal to begin consultations between the Warsaw Pact and NATO on reducing military activeness and limiting the scale of naval and air force activity in the waters of the Baltic, the North Sea, the Norwegian Sea, and the Greenland Sea and extending confidence-building measures to them.

[Correspondent] About 4 months have elapsed since M.S. Gorbachev's trip to Murmansk. Are there any changes in public opinion and in the positions of the governments of the countries of northern Europe, Canada, and the United States which could be considered a positive response to the CPSU Central Committee general secretary's speech?

[Lobov] The Murmansk program has been greeted with great interest in the Nordic countries. The statements of statesmen and representatives of political parties and public organizations stress primarily the fact that it was put forward at a very timely point. That this program is organically linked with the proposals to reduce armed forces and armaments in Europe from the Atlantic to the Urals and with the Treaty on Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles. They note the flexibility and realism of the positions formulated by M.S. Gorbachev and the readiness to proceed simultaneously along the path of multilateral and bilateral cooperation and to consider both the interests of individual countries and the interests of military-political alliances as a whole. The fact that the Soviet Union has expressed itself clearly and unambiguously in favor of a radical reduction of the level of military confrontation in the region and in favor of specific talks on reducing the scales of military activeness in the north as a whole—in both the Eastern and Western hemispheres—has generated a positive response both in government circles and among the broad public.

Of course, no one thinks the practical implementation of the Murmansk program is a simple matter. After all, if you look at the position of the countries in this region, it does vary. Sweden and Finland are not members of military blocs, while Norway, Denmark, Iceland, and Canada belong to NATO. Membership of NATO cannot fail to influence the formation of the positions of these countries' governments. On the one hand they are displaying interest in consolidating peace and building up varied cooperation. On the other hand, under pressure from the leading NATO powers and above all the United States, these governments adhere to the overall bloc position. The reaction of the United States and the NATO leadership to proposals on questions of limiting military activeness in the region is so far not constructive.

Considering the reaction in the North European and other countries to the Murmansk program, the Soviet Union has proposed a number of additional steps to activate the peace process in the region. They were announced during N.I. Ryzhkov's recent visit to Sweden and Norway. What is in view is the Soviet side's intention to invite observers from the Nordic countries to a USSR naval exercise in 1988 without waiting for the solution of the question of confidence-building measures in the maritime regions surrounding all Europe.

The USSR is also prepared to include the Barents Sea in the zone of confidence-building measures. With a view to restricting and reducing the scales of military activeness in the north the Soviet Union is in favor of not delaying the start of consultations between the Warsaw Pact and NATO and of holding them with the participation of Sweden and Finland.

At consultations and other talks we are prepared to agree on restricting the number of large-scale naval and air force exercises in these maritime regions to one exercise every 2 years; on creating in the Northern and Western Atlantic for the USSR and the United States respectively of agreed regions in which actions by submarine forces and facilities of the military-political alliances should be banned; on renouncing on a reciprocal basis the holding of naval exercises in the regions of the main ocean and marine trade routes of the North Atlantic and in regions of intensive seasonal fishing; on preventing the concentration of naval groupings in international straits and

approaches to them and on defining the size limits for these groupings in terms of the number and classes of ships and other specifications; and on including in the limitation zones the Baltic straits (the Great Belt and Little Belt, the Sund, and the Skagerrak), the Denmark Strait, and the English Channel, and the Iceland-Faroe Islands-Scandinavia region.

[Correspondent] Some circles in the West have recently been trying to sow alarm in the countries of northern Europe, claiming that the elimination of intermediate- and shorter-range missiles could have an adverse effect on the situation in this region and increase tension here. What can you say on this subject?

[Lobov] Such attempts are taking place. In general we should not be surprised. Any good initiative meets with both overt and concealed opponents on its path.

Even before the signing of this historic document NATO circles had begun strenuously nurturing plans to "compensate" for the Pershings and cruise missiles subject to elimination by deploying other nuclear and nonnuclear weapons systems, including in the north. Naturally, this turn of events can lead to no good. Essentially it is a deception of the peoples inasmuch as instead of some lethal systems their security will be threatened by other, no less lethal systems. For instance, does it make any difference what kind of cruise missile—ground-, sea-, or air-launched—is used to destroy a population center or city? There is no difference. Removing Pershings from West German territory but then concentrating in, for instance, the northern seas, an additional quantity of submarines with cruise missiles means not reducing the level of military confrontation but implementing a maneuver with a view to preserving and even increasing this confrontation.

It is this prospect which perturbs people in the Northern region countries. Expressing this perturbation, Norwegian Foreign Minister T. Stoltenberg stated recently that for Norwegians "it is particularly important to avoid the buildup of nuclear armaments in the maritime regions adjacent to Norway. The Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles loses its value to a considerable extent if after it enters into force there begins to be an increase in for instance the number of sea-launched and air-launched cruise missiles."

The Soviet Union is in favor of a radical reduction of the level of military confrontation and in favor of the agreements signed leading to a real reduction of the two alliances' military potentials. In that sense the Murmansk program is a specific, purposeful, realistic document.

[Correspondent] The creation of a nuclear-free zone in North Europe. What is the Soviet Union's contribution to the solution of this problem and what has it done and what is it prepared to do specifically? Is it examining the question of halting nuclear tests on Novaya Zemlya?

[Lobov] The problem of creating a nuclear-free zone in northern Europe has been dictated for a long time. Since March 1987 a group of experts from the Nordic countries has been studying this problem. But so far no substantial results have been achieved.

The Soviet Union's contribution to the creation of a nuclear-free zone in northern Europe is constructive and specific. As is well-known, the USSR has unilaterally dismantled its intermediate-range missile launchers on the Kola peninsula and a large proportion of its launchers for these missiles on the territory of the Leningrad and Baltic military districts. Many operational and tactical missiles have been removed from these regions. The number of exercises has been restricted in the regions in the immediate vicinity of the Scandinavian countries.

The Soviet Union could go even further in this direction given corresponding steps in response. It is prepared to act as the guarantor of a nuclear-free zone in Norther Europe and suggests formulating a guarantee by multilateral and bilateral agreements and government states or by other means. We are still ready to discuss with interested sides the questions of giving nuclear-free status to the waters of the Baltic Sea in the context of creating a nuclear-free zone in North Europe.

As for the question of halting nuclear tests on Novaya Zemlya, here the Soviet side, as M.S. Gorbachev said in Murmansk, expresses the readiness to resolve this problem once and for all on the condition that the United States also agrees to halt nuclear tests or at least for a start to radically reduce their number and yield.

In brief, the Soviet Union is firmly and steadily pursuing one aim: making the North a zone of peace for the benefit of the common interests of the countries of this vast region and the entire planet.

MSZMP's Szuros Presents Three-Party Initiative

PM291451 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Jan 88 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Joint Initiative"]

[Text] Budapest, 22 Jan—M. Szuros, MSZMP Central Committee secretary, gave a news conference here yesterday to launch the document "Initiative by Three Parties. Cooperation by Countries Not Possessing Nuclear Weapons in the Interests of Disarmament in Europe." This document, signed by the Finnish Social Democratic Party, the MSZMP, and the Italian Socialist Party, says:

"Most favorable opportunities exist in Europe today for the creation of a safe world. The elimination of intermediate- and shorter-range missiles paves the way to genuine disarmament. We hope this process will be accompanied by significant reductions of strategic nuclear arms and strict observance of the ABM Treaty.

"These historically significant achievements will help to strengthen security all over the world and especially in Europe. The whole of Europe must play an important role in the unfolding of a lasting and balanced process of consolidating trust and disarmament.

"We believe European countries, and especially states not possessing nuclear weapons, must engage in a quest for ways to create security regardless of political, military, and ideological differences.

"Nonproliferation of nuclear weapons is the basis of international efforts aimed at reducing the nuclear threat. All countries in Europe not possessing nuclear weapons are particularly interested in extending the term of the Treaty on the Nonproliferation of Nuclear Weapons when it expires in 1995.

"The reduction of intermediate- and shorter-range nuclear arms and strategic arms must not lead to a new round of the arms race in other spheres. The security interests of all countries and regions must be taken into consideration.

"Mutual trust serves as a basis of genuine peace and security. Talks on military doctrines could lead to a reduction of groundless fears and the elaboration of more defense-oriented military concepts, and could pave the way for elimination of any imbalances at a lower level of arms.

"One of the most important tasks in Europe at present is to really reduce conventional forces and arms. A contribution to the consolidation of stability could be made by a treaty on new equilibrium of conventional armed forces and arms at a lower level. In this context, the agenda for disarmament talks must include the question of reducing tactical nuclear arms and battlefield nuclear weapons.

"The creation of nuclear-free zones and other forms of division and withdrawal of armed forces on the basis of treaties between interested countries could help to achieve the ultimate goal—the freeing of Europe from the threat of nuclear war.

"All European countries—members of military alliances, neutral, and nonaligned—bear equal responsibility for further measures to strengthen trust and security within the Helsinki process framework. They all must have the right to take part in talks on the elimination of conventional arms. The goal is to establish peace and security at a lower level of arms.

"We are striving for cooperation in the interests of achieving these goals and establishing a fair and lasting peace in Europe. The complex problems facing us demand thorough study and open dialogue. We also call on other forces in countries not possessing nuclear weapons to join this proposal for cooperation in the interests of disarmament in Europe."

Commenting on the document and answering journalists' questions, M. Szuros said that the idea of the joint initiative by the three parties belongs to Kalevi Sorsa. It was actively supported by B. Craxi and the MSZMP leadership.

CEMA Executive Committee Session Opens

LD020923 Moscow TASS in English 0840 GMT 2 Feb 88

[Text] Moscow February 2 TASS—Questions pertaining to a perfection of mutual economic cooperation between the CMEA member-countries are under discussion at the 126th meeting of that international organisation's Executive Committee, which opened here today. The participants in the meeting being held at the level of representatives of the CMEA member-countries and the Executive Committee are to discuss the progress of work on the most important papers for the next meeting of the council session. The main of the documents is the draft collective concept of international socialist division of labour for the period from 1991 to 2005. They are also to discuss the implementation of the tasks for electronization ensuing from the comprehensive programme for the development of scientific-technical progress of the CMEA member-countries until the year 2000.

The meeting is to outline specific measures to restructure the work of the CMEA Secretariat in keeping with the decisions of the 43rd (extraordinary) meeting of the CMEA session. It is planned to endorse the new structure of the CMEA Secretariat.

The CMEA Permanent Commission on Legal Issues has submitted for examination by the Executive Committee the proposals in connection with the perfection of contractual-legal norms and general terms of cooperation for promoting above all a broadening of direct production and scientific-technological ties between the economic organisations of the countries.

Rohlicek, Delegation To Attend

LD020914 Prague Television Service in Czech 1830 GMT 1 Feb 88

[Text] A Czechoslovak delegation arrived in Moscow today to attend a CEMA Executive Committee session. The delegation is led by Rudolf Rohlicek, first deputy federal premier and our CEMA permanent representative.

New Secretariat Structure

LD021134 Prague CTK in English 1102 GMT 2 Feb 88

[Text] Moscow Feb 2 (CTK correspondent)—The current 126th session of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance Executive Committee is to approve a new structure of the CMEA Secretariat, head of the Economic Information Department of the Secretariat Vaclav Soukup told journalists here today.

The restructuring should ensure greater effectiveness of the Secretariat's work while cutting the staff.

Vaclav Soukup said that in future the Secretariat would pay increased attention to systematic assessments of the development of the member states' cooperation. Greater emphasis will be put on the fulfilment of adopted resolutions and intensified cooperation in the implementation of the comprehensive program of the CMEA states' scientific and technological progress by the year 2000.

CEMA Transport Commission Meets in Prague

LD260635 Moscow TASS in English 0620 GMT 26 Jan 88

[Text] [No dateline as received] The CMEA Standing Commission on Transport has held a session in Prague.

Delegations from Bulgaria, Hungary, Vietnam, the German Democratic Republic, Cuba, Mongolia, Poland, Romania, the USSR and Czechoslovakia took part, as well as a delegation from Yugoslavia.

The commission considered issues of restructuring of cooperation mechanism in the field of transport, the composition of its standing working bodies and approved a working plan for 1988-1989.

The participants discussed matters connected with rearranging the priorities of the long-term oriented programme of cooperation in the field of transit flights over the CMEA countries' territories and the rendering of technical assistance in developing and enhancing the efficiency of air transport of Vietnam, Cuba and Mongolia.

'Friendship-88' Exercises Begin in Hungary

LD291859 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1830 GMT 29 Jan 88

[Text] The "Friendship-88" exercises began on Hungarian territory today. Subdivisions and units of the Hungarian People's Army, the Soviet Army, and the Czechoslovak People's Army are participating, totalling some 13,000 men. The aim of the exercises is to improve the combat training of troops while carrying out a defensive action.

Gerasimov Announces Shevardnadze-Shultz Meeting
LD011421 Moscow TASS in English 1413 GMT 1 Feb 88

[Text] Moscow February 1 TASS—It has been agreed that the next meeting between Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, and the Secretary of State of the United States George Shultz will be held in Moscow on February 21-23. This was officially announced here today.

"The forthcoming visit will be the first of a series of exchange visits by the foreign ministers of our countries after the signing in Washington of the Soviet-American Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate-Range and Shorter-Range Missiles", the TASS diplomatic correspondent was told by Gennadiy Gerasimov, head of the USSR Foreign Ministry's Information Directorate. "The purpose of this visit is to facilitate the fulfilment of the accords that were put on record in the joint Soviet-American statement in Washington, to conduct the necessary preparation of the draft treaty on the 50-per cent reduction of the strategic offensive arms of the sides and to create conditions for President Reagan's forthcoming visit to Moscow to end with a concrete result as has Mikhail Gorbachev's visit to Washington. Of course, the foreign ministers of the USSR and the United States will also study other questions that will be topical at the time of the visit".

28 Jan Foreign Ministry Briefing Reviewed
PM011929 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 30 Jan 88 Morning Edition p 5

[A. Cherepanov report: "At the USSR Foreign Ministry Press Center"]

[Excerpts] A scheduled briefing was held at the USSR Foreign Ministry Press Center on 28 January. It was conducted by G.I. Gerasimov, chief of the USSR Foreign Ministry Information Administration. [passage omitted]

The journalists were informed that on 28 January V.P. Polyakov, chief of the Near Eastern and Northern African Countries Administration, returned to Moscow after completing a visit to Libya and Tunisia, where he had conversations with M. al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Libyan revolution, Y. 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, and C. Klibi, secretary general of the Arab League. The sides discussed the problem of convening an international conference on the Near East.

The briefing moderator once again reminded journalists that rumors are a poor source of information for professionals.

Statements have been made in Stockholm that Afghan dushmans allegedly sent a message to N.I. Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, who was there on an official visit recently. This information is untrue. The Soviet side has never been in contact with the dushmans and has no intention of so doing.

The Italian newspapers LA REPUBBLICA and LA STAMPA have reported a sharp deterioration in the health of cosmonaut Yu. Romanenko. For the benefit of those wishing to write more on his well-being: Yu. Romanenko is currently resting with his family in Kislovodsk and feels fine.

Another section of the briefing was devoted to "News From Lithuania." Journalists were addressed by A. Laurinchyukas, chairman of the Lithuanian Supreme Soviet Foreign Affairs Commission; Yu. Pozhela, president of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences; D. Banionis, people's artiste of the USSR; and R. Zhyugzhda, doctor of historical sciences.

This year is a jubilee year for Soviet Lithuania. Soviet power was first established here 70 years ago. [passage omitted]

In conjunction with scientists from other republics, Lithuanian historians are preparing for the celebration a monograph entitled "Intervention in the Baltic" which will, incidentally, be more than adequate as a well-reasoned response to those in the West who try to distort the history of the Baltic peoples, instill mistrust—particularly among young people—of the socialist system, and inflame nationalist feelings.

In this connection, the speakers again stressed that interference in Lithuanian internal affairs by official or private groups and persons is intolerable.

NATO To Hold 'Arrowhead Express-88' Maneuvers
LD011832 Moscow TASS in English 1728 GMT 1 Feb 88

[Text] Brussels February 1 TASS—Some 14,000 servicemen from nine North Atlantic bloc countries will take part in the manoeuvres of the NATO mobile forces in the north of Norway on March 2-24, 1988, the headquarters of the Supreme Allied Commander Europe (Saceur) announced here today.

It has released a communique here which says that the manoeuvres code-named "Arrowhead Express-88" are designed to test the battle training of mobile force units in winter conditions mimicking real ones, improve their teamwork, enhance effectiveness and combat abilities.

Land and air force units of the United States, Canada, West Germany, Britain, Italy, Norway, Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxemburg will be committed to action in the manoeuvres. The Norwegian Military Department will send the largest number of troops to the exercises. American General John Galvin, supreme allied commander Europe, will command the manoeuvres.

The NATO mobile forces set up in 1960 are actually interventionist rapid deployment troops, the vanguard of the offensive armed forces of the North Atlantic bloc.

Rybakov in New Zealand Praises Antarctic Treaty
LD010752 Moscow TASS in English 0719 GMT 1 Feb 88

[Text] Wellington February 1 TASS—By TASS special correspondent Nikolay Konstantinov:

The Antarctic Treaty was described as the best diplomatic document of the 20th century at the meeting of the countries-parties to the treaty, which closed in the capital of New Zealand. The consultative meeting discussed the mineral resources of the Antarctic. Delegations from more than 30 countries took part in discussing that problem. "The Antarctic Treaty has for almost three decades confirmed its effectiveness in promoting international concord, the objectives and principles of the U.N. Charter. It is for the first time ever that a whole continent has been closed to measures of a military character. It has become an arena of solely peaceful scientific research," Soviet Ambassador Plenipotentiary and Extraordinary Yuriy Rybakov, who heads the Soviet delegation, emphasized. He noted the Soviet side's principled stand, whose gist is that the area covered by the Antarctic Treaty should further be used with only peaceful aims in the interests of the whole humanity and should not become a subject of international discord.

The TASS correspondent interviewed the ambassador on board the research vessel Akademik Fyodorov, which arrived in Wellington after a two-months cruise off the shores of the Antarctic for a short rest of the members of the expedition and replenishing the stocks of the ship. The arrival of the flagship of the Soviet Antarctic flotilla aroused much interest among New Zealand public. Many people visited the ship on the "open doors day", saw its research laboratories and familiarized themselves with the conditions of work of scientists in the ship.

Chazov Cites Statistics at London AIDS Parley
PM011919 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Jan 88 Second Edition p 6

[Special correspondents V. Gubarev and A. Lyutyy dispatch: "Conflagration Over the Planet. Afterword to World AIDS Congress"]

[Excerpts] London, 29 Jan—A strange sensation arose at the sessions of this congress. It was sometimes a simply awful feeling: What awaits us all? Mounting the rostrum, the delegates spoke about what is being or should be done to combat AIDS. [passage omitted]

"Educational and explanatory work among our people is now the chief concern of Soviet health care organs," Academician Ye.I. Chazov said. "Unfortunately, the mass media devote too little attention to this. AIDS is just starting to penetrate our country. Some 33 Soviet citizens are carriers of the virus. The disease has developed in one of them. Some 18 of the 33 people had had sexual relations with foreigners, who were the likely source of infection. Of the 97,381 foreigners screened for the presence of the AIDS virus, 221 reacted positively. We have adopted a law on AIDS. However, an outbreak of an epidemic in the country can be prevented only through joint efforts, not by medical means alone."

...In the congress building, it was possible to watch video recordings from clinics in various countries—the sufferings of adults and children, whites and blacks, rich and poor. So far AIDS has left them with not a single chance of life.

Candles were burning on London's ancient roadway to the memory of those who have died of AIDS and of human indifference. One of the demonstrators approached us. He was a pale man with sunken eyes. He silently held out a leaflet. "The cruel reality," it read, "is that there is an acute shortage of funds in the sphere of AIDS research, and there is currently surprisingly little international cooperation in pooling resources and scientific potentials."

It seems to us that the voice of that unfortunate has been heard. To judge from the documents adopted, the world congress has given a boost to the now so essential coordination of efforts in the struggle against AIDS. The participants were unanimous that there are no problems in the world that we cannot resolve together. Only goodwill is needed. As is known, it is easier to prevent the emergence of a disease than to treat it. And this concerns not only AIDS.

Further Chazov Comments
LD292122 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 29 Jan 88

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] An international meeting of health care ministers on the problems of averting the spread of AIDS has ended in London.

[Begin recording] [Correspondent V. Shishkovskiy, identified by screen caption] Health care ministers from more than 140 countries, including the Soviet Union, took part in this important forum. As is well-known, doctors have not yet managed to discover effective means of curing this disease, called AIDS in the West. More than 150,000 people already suffer from it here and, as stressed at the conference, this year that figure could double. Those taking part in the forum exchanged the results of scientific research conducted and their experience with preventative measures and set down joint steps to conquer one of the most insidious illnesses of the 20th century. [video shows the forum in process.

The camera pans across slogans, including one in Russian: "AIDS. We will beat it as an entire world." video then shows an interview with Ye. I. Chazov, USSR minister of health, identified by screen caption.]

[Chazov] What is most important is medical propaganda, and not just in medical circles. The press, television, and radio should talk about the means of preventing this disease. It is, you know, very interesting, and for mankind, let us say, it is fortunate that this disease spreads in only two ways, that is, sexually and in blood, during blood transfusions. All those conjectures—that cats and mosquitos allegedly pass it on, were all refuted. There are only two ways, so this is easier for us. But to prevent it, each citizen must know how AIDS is transmitted and must know how to protect himself. We know for certain [tverdo znayem] and it was stressed here that mechanical means of prevention can play a very great role.

The second thing, of course, is for every citizen to know how he must behave in society and in life. After all, out of 33 carriers—33 carriers have been discovered in our country, citizens of our country—18 were infected through sexual relations with foreigners. There are now, well, carriers of this virus in our country. It is important to say one thing more: Of course, the number of carriers will increase. There is not doubt about it. Throughout the world as a whole, it is believed that there will be something like 1.5 million carriers this year already and 250,000 sufferers. These people are going to live in our society, among us, and there must be a correct mutual relationship. Nothing terrible happens. The main thing is, and I stress again, everyone's— every citizen's— health and fate is in his hands.

It was a very useful and interesting meeting. It stressed once again that it is essential for us to cooperate on an international scale. [end recording]

Human Rights Resolution To Be Presented at UN

LD010517 Moscow TASS in English 0504 GMT 1 Feb 88

[Text] Minsk January 31 TASS—TASS correspondent Tatyana Khryapina writes:

Soviet Belorussia, one of the U.N. founding members, intends to present at the upcoming U.N. General Assembly session a draft resolution which should contribute to the implementation of the political and social rights of youth and women.

"This proposal reflects our concern that the rights of women and young people are infringed upon in several countries", Anatoliy Gurinovich, foreign minister of Belorussia, said in a TASS interview. "For instance, in the United States where they like to talk about rights and freedoms, women, who make up 51.3 per cent of that country's population, have a mere five per cent of the seats in local government bodies. More, the U.S. Constitution does not have until today an article on women's equality with men".

Describing the situation in this field in the republic, the minister said that women make up half of the deputies in Belorussia's parliament and local government bodies.

The minister recalled that there was no unemployment in Belorussia as well as in the other Soviet republics for well over 50 years. "Swelling unemployment in the West generates concern among us. What is particularly worrisome is that there are many young people and women among those who are denied the right to work. The number of the unemployed youth went up eight-fold in France, and six-fold in West Germany in the past ten years. As for women, in the United States they make up 50 per cent of all people without a job".

Comparing other social aspects of the status of women and youth, the minister recalled that the USSR holds the first place in the world by the number of women specialists. In Belorussia, for instance, the majority of teachers and physicians are women. They make up 40 per cent of all research workers. At the same time, according to UNESCO figures, 60 per cent of all the illiterate people in the world numbering 800 million are women.

"The draft resolution which we propose to submit is meant to call attention to these problems existing in the world", the minister said.

Further on Helsinki Human Rights Colloquium

PM291917 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Jan 88 Second Edition p 6

[Own correspondent V. Bolshakov dispatch: "Once More About Human Rights"]

[Text] Paris, Jan—The escalator in the Palais des Congres was moving from floor to floor delivering visitors to the numerous conferences and meetings this famous Paris skyscraper was hosting. Somewhere between the fifth and sixth floors, an arrow was pointing to "Colloquium: Human Rights and International Relations." A fairly interesting crowd was moving in this direction: French and foreign "Sovietologists" whose faces you may have seen on television or at similar venues, international civil servants, diplomats, journalists, and people in civilian clothes but with an obvious military bearing. There was also a motley throng of emigres, who are always easily identifiable, some by the hunger shining in their eyes, others by their dull eyes from which the spark has gone forever.

The colloquium had not opened; they were waiting for the main organizers—Claude Malhuret, secretary of state for human rights at the Prime Minister's Office, and Thierry de Montbrial director of the French Institute of International Relations (IFRI). I stepped out onto

the balcony. Below, right in front of the entrance to the Palais des Congres, two policemen were trying to keep demonstrators behind a steel barrier. The demonstrators carried posters which read: "Defend our rights! We are in the 23d day of our hunger strike protesting the decision of the French authorities!" They were Iranians, members of the families of the Khomeyni opponents who had been deported to Gabon from France. The reprisals against people who had the status of political refugees evoked such indignation that President F. Mitterrand of France himself had to dissociate himself from the government decision. The "human rights champion," Claude Malhuret, did not stir a finger in their defense.

The opening of "Malhuret's Colloquium," as the press dubbed it straightaway, coincided with the anniversary of Emile Zola's famous letter "J'ACCUSE..." In connection with this anniversary, L'HUMANITE published a special issue, including a photocopy of the front page of the now long-defunct newspaper L'AURORE, which 90 years ago carried Zola's letter, along with current "I accuse..." letters by different authors.

Here are just two of them:

Claude Barbier, brother of Lucien Barbier, who died on 6 November 1987 at the hands of the police who were trying to break up a demonstration at Amiens. "I accuse the prefect of the Department of the Somme as bearing the main responsibility for my brother Lucien's death since it was he who issued the order to the Amiens police to break up the demonstration. But he is not the only guilty party...."

Edith Viola, mother of Philip Viola, who, unable to find work, in despair, committed suicide on 30 August 1987: "I accuse the leaders of this country for pushing young people to the brink of despair. My pain is the greater because attempts were made to hush up the circumstances of my son's death...."

Claude Malhuret's department pretended not to have noticed the L'HUMANITE articles. Although when opening the colloquium, the secretary of state said, with clear reference to these articles, that "Communists have rejected the concept of human rights way back since the 19th century." Dropping the word "bourgeois" in front of the word "concept", K. Malhuret resorted to a routine forgery, much used by Western propagandists in an effort to create the impression that communists are opposed to human rights in general, rather than the interpretation imposed on this concept by the bourgeoisie and its ideologists.

Where there is one forgery, you may find another. Claude Malhuret confirmed this rule too by declaring that in the socialist countries, and above all in the USSR, "despite some positive moves, there has been no serious change for the better in the human rights sphere." The policy of glasnost in the USSR, he claimed, is only "outward show," no more. This led to the conclusion that in these circumstances it is necessary "to react with caution to the proposal to hold a conference on human rights in Moscow within the framework of the Helsinki process."

An interesting detail in the program of the colloquium attracts attention: Among those invited there was not a single Soviet specialist. On the other hand, there was a full complement of "Sovietologists" from French and foreign centers. Only the "roundtable" discussion on the question "international organizations and human rights" included people such as A.M. M'Bow, the former director general of UNESCO, and Olara A. Otunnu, former chairman of the UN Human Rights Commission, who cannot be accused of anticommunism. However, at the same "roundtable" was Jeane Kirkpatrick, former U.S. representative at the United Nations, who was described at one time as the "godmother of the contras" and the "Joan of Arc of the crusade against communism." It was people like Jeane Kirkpatrick, and like-minded people from France and other NATO countries, who set the tone at "Malhuret's colloquium."

From their speeches, it was obvious that the Western campaign "in defense of human rights" is going through a serious crisis. As is known, it was launched in 1977 by U.S. President Carter and was immediately joined by all the U.S. allies in Europe, with France playing an especially active role. This campaign was aimed, on the one hand, at the rehabilitation of capitalism, the bourgeois society, and its system of values and, on the other hand, at discrediting socialism. Both aims were used for internal consumption and for ideological export to developing and socialist states.

In general, the "human rights policy" as practiced in the West is not regarded as a yardstick for freedom in both developing and in capitalist countries, and much less so in socialist countries. However, to claim that the campaign under the slogan "In defense of human rights" suffered a defeat from the outset would mean sinning against the truth.

Alas, during the years of stagnation, we frequently gave bourgeois propaganda an opportunity to wage a struggle on our territory by exploiting the far from isolated cases of violations of civil and personal freedoms in the USSR, an absence of effective legal barriers in the path of administrative high-handedness, and insufficiently reliable safeguards to protect people's honor and dignity against insults, slander, and the petty tyranny of all types of local "bigshots."

The fact that we failed to promptly bring our legislation fully in line with universal international pacts and conventions on human rights which the USSR had signed and ratified also played into the hands of our ideological adversaries. So, despite the fact that we were ahead of the West in the social sphere in many respects, bourgeois propaganda managed to distort the overall picture of our

achievements with references to various cases of insufficiently justified bans on emigration, the publication of individual books, legal blunders, unlawful dismissals, and so forth.

The enormous effort launched by our party and the entire people after the CPSU Central Committee April (1985) Plenum for the democratization of the Soviet society, the 27th CPSU Congress conclusion—implemented as part of our policy—that cooperation of states in the humanitarian sphere, including the defense of civil and economic rights and freedoms, is directly connected with security, and also the policy of glasnost and openness, has deprived the West of many of its former "trump cards." All the same, the Paris colloquium coined the slogan: "Let us meet the new Soviet challenge intellectually strong!" What did they have in mind?

The people who were arguing about what attitude should be adopted toward the changes taking place in the USSR belonged to different groups. There were those who have a pathological hatred of communism, and those who, while not sharing our views, nonetheless try to understand us. The recipes of the extreme exponents of anti-Sovietism who panic at the thought that they might lose access to the feeding-troughs of the CIA and the anti-communist centers have not changed. The recommendations of A. Ginzburg, a specialist on the staff of the CIA's Radio Liberty, and V. Bukovskiy, "international chairman" of the "Resistance International" which has been set up by the selfsame CIA, boiled down to appeals to have nothing to do with the Soviet Union, not to trust it, and to continue the nuclear arms race. Ginzburg went as far as to urge not only that the new Soviet leadership but also the entire Soviet people not be trusted.

There was not a great deal of difference between these people and exponents of anti-Sovietism, such as Malhuret himself, who saw nothing but "hypocrisy" in the policy of glasnost. Or take A. Besancon, one of the ideologists of the French right, who claims that it is "absurd to speak of a human rights policy in the USSR," and other similar "specialists" on the Soviet Union.

It is obvious that recommendations of this kind can only lead to an impasse rather than the establishment of an East-West dialogue. The "Mulhuret colloquium" has shown that the present-day "Sovietologists" as such (not to mention the anti-Soviet emigres) are incapable of keeping abreast of the changes taking place in the USSR and of analyzing and evaluating them soberly. After all, it brought together "pseudointerpreters," rather than researchers, into what is happening in the USSR.

After all—and this was noted in a number of speeches delivered at the colloquium—the times today are such that without seriously studying, researching, and gaining a profound understanding of the events taking place in the USSR, it is difficult for the West to build relations with us. This was mentioned, for instance, by H. Carrere d'Encausse, a prominent French Sovietologist, in her report. Naturally, she, and those who share her views, remain our ideological adversaries, but it is worth noting that they are not against political dialogue with the Soviet Union. On the contrary, they intend to seek it, including dialogue on human rights problems.

Replying to Ginzburg and Bukovskiy, one of the West German participants in the colloquium explained why such a dialogue, in particular on human rights, is now as important for the West as for the Soviet Union. He said the policy of democratization and glasnost being implemented in the Soviet Union also affects the Soviet foreign policy on which European, and international, security largely depend, and that therefore it cannot be ignored by the West.

Here is another characteristic detail: Despite the fact that the colloquium had been advertised as all but the most important event in the preparations for the bicentennial of the great French Revolution and the Declaration of Human and Civil Rights, by no means all who had been invited actually agreed to attend. For instance, Harlem Desir, head of the influential organization "SOS—Racism!", failed to put in an appearance at the Palais des Congres, pleading illness at the last minute. This was a painful blow for Malhuret and his colleagues.

An article by B. Kouchner, chairman of the movement "Medecins du Monde," published in LIBERATION, was a veritable slap in the face. This article, which was published on the eve of the colloquium, said that the deportation from France of the Iranian political emigres proved once and for all that Malhuret's department and he himself were not doing their job. This "office for the defense of human rights" serves merely "to pull wool over people's eyes;" "it is a political subterfuge" and "a dishonest game." In conclusion, B. Kouchner advised the Malhuret department "to vanish," and Malhuret himself "to hand in his resignation." Well, any objective observer who attended the "Malhuret colloquium" will have little to add to this advice.

Burlatskiy Remarks Noted

PM021017 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 29 Jan 88 Morning Edition p 4

[V. Mikheyev report: "In an Atmosphere of Open Debate"]

[Text] "The time has come to put the discussion of human rights on a constructive footing. In the past, when this topic fed the line of confrontation, Western countries would accuse us of violating personal rights, while we would point to their violations of social, economic, and national rights. We spoke different languages. Today it is clear that no one benefited from that," Professor F. Burlatskiy remarked at a meeting with a delegation of the International Helsinki Federation for Human Rights.

As chairman of the Soviet Committee for European Security and Cooperation's Commission for International Cooperation on Humanitarian Questions and Human Rights, F. Burlatskiy said that its chief task is to help improve the human rights situation in the USSR. Any innovations are suitable which advance the democratization of Soviet society and meet the interests of all social strata and all of society as a whole.

Jeri Laber, executive director of the Helsinki Federation's U.S. branch, described what the federation does. It monitors the observance and implementation of the spirit and letter of the CSCE Final Act. Many speakers made a proviso: The federation gathers information on the human rights situation in all the states, without exception, that signed the Helsinki Final Act—but also without giving preference to any group of countries. The proviso was also made that its members understand the interdependence of all aspects of humanitarian cooperation and do not push any one of them to the forefront.

However, the majority of the guests' speeches were dominated by the question of emigration and the reunification of families, which virtually amounted to emigration from the Soviet Union for various reasons. Replying to an IZVESTIYA question during a recess, former Austrian Foreign Minister P. Jankowitsch denied that this is a pet subject and that it enjoys a privileged position. "The range of problems associated with human rights is far wider," he emphasized.

"The problem of emigration is hardly of concern to the ordinary Soviet citizen living, let us say, 5,000 km from Moscow, in Siberia," Professor M. Krutogolov continued the discussion. "He is more concerned that a militia officer should not be able to enter his home without permission and that the village soviet should not infringe on his rights as a working person. Today we do not so much need new laws as guarantees of their strict observance. It is a question of setting in motion the state institutions under which individual cases of human rights violations would be impossible."

An atmosphere of open debate is the chief distinguishing feature of the first business contacts between the two organizations.

Adamishin Receives Group

LD291725 Moscow TASS in English 1550 GMT 29 Jan 88

[Text] Moscow January 29 TASS—Member of the delegation from the International Federation of Helsinki Watch Committees from Europe, the United States and Canada, in the USSR at the invitation of the Soviet Committee for European Security and Cooperation, have been given broad opportunities for familiarization with the human rights situation in the USSR.

Meetings and discussions held by the watch committees delegation with officials, representatives of public organizations and scientists and all those whom the visitors wanted to see attested to the Soviet side's readiness to discuss any issues related to the "third basket".

It would be naive to believe that mistrust and bias accumulated for many years could be done away with in one try and all differences and approaches to such an important problem as human rights be removed.

Still, despite the character of polemics, at times acute, and differences on individual issues, the sides recognized the need for a concerted search for solutions. Karl von Schwarzenberg, chairman of the international federation, assessed the visit and discussions in Moscow as a "long mile" and pointed to the "spirit of openness and glasnost."

The differences in views is mainly due to the fact that, in discussing the human rights problem, one of the sides moved to the foreground socio-economic rights, while the other laid chief emphasis on rights of the individual.

"For 99 per cent of the Soviet population, the right to emigration is not the principal right. It is important to secure daily observance of rights and legal guarantees guarantees in all spheres of society," said Professor Mikhail Krutogolov of the Institute of State and Law at the USSR Academy of Sciences.

The need for perfecting legal standards and laws is dictated by the new stage in the life of Soviet society. Much is yet to be done to ensure advancement of the process of democratization and perfect Soviet legislation that would guard people's rights in the social, political and economic spheres.

Receiving the delegation, Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Anatoliy Adamishin stressed the importance of humanitarian cooperation as an important integral part of the Helsinki process. The proposal advanced by the Socialist countries, including the USSR, for establishing a comrehensive system of international security, approved by the 42nd session of the UN General Assembly, rested on the recognition of the importance of military, political, economic and humanitarian aspects. The suggestion to hold a humanitarian conference in Moscow was advanced precisely in that spirit.

"What will be the conditions for determining the composition of the conference?" asked Max von der Stoel, former foreign minister of the Netherlands and members of the Dutch Helsinki Committee.

"Our position is simple: We invite you to Moscow to a conference that will be held in full accordance with the Helsinki process. You may be sure that we will abide by all provisions of the mandate to be worked out on the basis of consensus in Vienna.

We have the right to ask that demands put on us will not be higher than those with regard to other participants," Adamishin said.

"When we talk about humanitarian cooperation, we mean gradual renunciation of the practice of recriminations and turning to the search for areas where we could cooperate for mutual benefit," noted the Soviet deputy foreign minister.

Soviet Attitude 'Changed'

AU011445 Vienna NEUE AZ in German 30 Jan 88 p 7

[Friedrich Kargan report from Moscow: "Human Rights in the Soviet Union; Helsinki Observer Group Notes an Atmosphere That Is Remarkably More Open"]

[Text] Whenever the Soviets were confronted with the question of "human rights," they would react irritably and talk of "inadmissible interference." Now this has changed. The international observer group of the Helsinki Federation, which had held talks with official authorities and dissidents for a week, found that today the Moscow leadership is ready to discuss human rights violations objectively and in detail. Although it is still too early to talk of reforms, the open atmosphere is remarkable.

The 21 commission members from 13 countries had discussions with the Soviet human rights commission that was officially founded in November, and met the prominent representatives of nonofficial Moscow, among them civil rights activist Andrey Sakharov.

The delegation, headed by the Austrian Karl Schwarzenberg, learned from Soviet judicial authorities that the planned penal law reform will soon be implemented. In particular, there are plans to cancel those sections on which the prosecution of dissidents is based: anti-Soviet propaganda and defamation of the Soviet Union. It is intended to make the way in which a sentence is served more humane; the abolition of capital punishment is also being considered. The Helsinki group handed over a list of 240 conscientious prisoners to the judicial minister.

The Soviet authorities showed little understanding for the question of the abuse of psychiatry. In the Ministry of the Interior, as well as in the Health Ministry, it was strictly denied that such a problem exists at all—in spite of critical articles having been published in several Soviet newspapers.

On the other hand, the commission was able to meet nonofficial groups unhindered, and also those with a pointedly critical attitude. So far, however, there have not been any legal guarantees for these groups. If Moscow wanted to host an international human rights conference, this would have to change, delegation head Schwarzenberg said.

Visit Comes to 'Strange End'

LD011259 Stockholm Domestic Service in Swedish 1130 GMT 1 Feb 88

[From the "Radio Magazine" program]

[Text] [Announcer] The International Helsinki Federation for Human Rights has ended its official visit to the Soviet Union, with the so-called Helsinki Group permitted for the first time to meet responsible Soviet ministers. But the unofficial part of the visit came to a strange end.

[Unidentified correspondent] They were officially invited to meet Soviet officials but also dissidents; however, by yesterday evening the KGB had had enough. Nine militiamen and three plain-clothes KGB men yesterday evening broke into a apartment here in Moscow and stopped a meeting at which two Americans from the International Helsinki Federation for Human Rights were meeting about 70 dissidents. Five Soviet citizens were arrested but were later released.

The incident yesterday evening was an ignominous conclusion to the official visit by the Helsinki delegation here in Moscow, which came to an end this morning. The delegation from the International Helsinki Federation for Human Rights consisted, during its visit to Moscow, of 21 prominent persons from eight different Western countries, including several parliamentarians, Nobel prize winners, professors of international law, and several former ministers of foreign affairs and justice.

For the first time, this group was officially invited to the Soviet Union and was able to meet several Soviet ministers of justice, internal affairs, and health. The Helsinki group presented its criticism of the Soviet's lack of respect for human rights. The presence of the group finally led to the granting of visas to several people who had been waiting for years to emigrate. In addition, a couple of political prisoners were released, and last Thursday one of the biggest Jewish demonstrations here in Moscow was held, without intervention from the militia. The general secretary of the Helsinki Federation is the Swede, Gerard Nagler, and I asked him why the Soviet authorities invited their foremost critics here.

[Nagler] In the spirit of glasnost (?again), they want to recruit positive voices, because they know our organization may have a big influence on governments and delegations in the whole Helsinki process. Also, they are terribly interested in this conference on human rights in Moscow, so they want us to (?look) positively on this.

UN Resolution on Mideast 'Blocked' by U.S. Veto

LD020615 Moscow TASS in English 0608 GMT 2 Feb 88

[Text] New York February 2 TASS—The United States has again blocked the adoption by the U.N. Security Council of a resolution aimed at effectively settling the Arab-Israeli

conflict. It vetoed on Monday a draft resolution submitted by non-aligned countries which pointed out the urgent need for achieving under the U.N. aegis of a comprehensive, just and durable settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict of which the Palestinian problem is a component part.

The draft resolution expressed profound concern over the growing suffering of the Palestinian people on occupied territories and demanded that Israel immediately stop its policy and practicses which constitute a violation of human rights.

United States & Canada

Shevardnadze, Shultz To Meet in Moscow 21-23 Feb

LD011409 Moscow World Service in English 1400 GMT 1 Feb 88

[Text] It has been announced in Moscow that under a preliminary arrangement the Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and the U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz are to have a meeting here on 21, 22, and 23 February.

U.S. Aide Linked to Tatar 'Extremists'

PM011721 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 1 Feb 88 First Edition p 3

[V. Sashin "Rejoinder": "Trauma On the Air. Sensational 'Discovery' by VOA Diagnosticians"]

[Text] It appears that VOA has made a sensational discovery in the medical field. It has contrived to make a remote diagnosis over the air. It reported, for example, on 24 January:

"As we reported before, the journalist Sabriye Seutova, a leader of the Crimean Tatars' movement for a return to the homeland, was picked up on 15 December in Moscow. She was sent to Tashkent with an injury to her skull. On 16 January, Seutova was hospitalized in the Tashkent Medical Institute's first clinic. The initial examination produced the diagnosis: concealed cranial trauma with symptomatology of a right-side lesion and raised intracranial pressure."

The diagnostic success of the VOA propagandists is certainly extraordinary.... But we will refrain from applauding. Here is why:

A careful examination of citizen S. Seutova at the neurological department of the Uzbek SSR Health Ministry No 2 Republic Clinical Hospital by cranial trauma specialists found no trauma. The diagnosis was quite different from the findings of the VOA "physicians"—inflammation of the middle ear (otitis) and... hysterical reaction.

The Aesculapiuses of the air were in disgrace. That might have been the end of it. But the diagnosis canard released by VOA had a specific political purpose, of course: Somehow to discredit our reality, democratization, and glasnost by citing a specific "fact" of alleged injustice toward citizen S. Seutova.

There was a very specific motive behind the touching concern for the aforementioned individual's state of health: S. Seutova has long been a valuable source of tendentious information for VOA and, incidentally, for the BBC as well. She is their "own correspondent" in Tashkent, specializing in insinuations concerning questions raised by the Crimean Tatars. Seutova has repeatedly used her trips to Moscow for the purpose of passing on to Western media provocative "statements" and "appeals" in person, or through other individuals. She has also been in secret contact with U.S. Embassy First Secretary Shaun Byrnes, who was trying to instigate actions by the extremists among the Crimean Tatars. It is no secret that it was Byrnes who—last year, in a secluded spot near the "Proletarskiy" subway station—instructed S. Seutova and other "leaders of the movement," B. Umerov and F. Ablyamitov, on methods of inciting citizens to group violations of public order.

Calgary 'Hotline' for Defectors a 'Provocation'

PM021507 Moscow SOVETSKIY SPORT in Russian 28 Jan 88 p 1

[V. Georgiyev "Commentary For the Issue": "Provocation Using...the Telephone"]

[Text] Goodwill and hospitality are the bases on which relations must be built and almost always are built between the organizers of the Olympics and those whom these competitions bring together from all corners of the globe: sportsmen, their instructors, and people in the sporting movement, in short, the entire Olympic family. The Olympic Charter, which defines the spirit and the letter of this forum of friendship, peace, and cooperation, also calls for this. The Canadians, who are staging the present games, have done a great deal to organize the 1988 Winter Olympics in Calgary successfully so that they conform to the Olympic ideals. Several thousand volunteers working in all services of the organizational committee have also made their contribution.

So an AFP report from the city which is very soon to become the Olympic capital has at least perplexed Olympic competitors and all sports fans. It talks about a so-called "telephone hot line."

The essence of the AFP report consists in the following: The Canadian immigration service has decided to introduce an original new "service" for participants in the 1988 Olympics—a "telephone hot line." On picking up the receiver and dialing the appropriate number, an Olympic sportsman from any country will be able to talk to a member of the service about his desire to betray his homeland. He is to receive instructions there and then on how to proceed next.

Those sportsmen who are not lucky and who dream about betraying their homeland but do not have a telephone at hand can act, AFP writes, in the following way: Feign illness or injury and ask to be sent to the Foothills Hospital. There a security guard protecting the "sick man" from his former compatriots will stand vigil outside the room of the "injured" sportsman who wants to change his homeland. Special hospital spokesman Rouend [name as published] will be able to see in advance who is visiting him. "If he doesn't want to see

people from his country of origin," Scott Rouend explained, "we will forbid them entry to the room and inform the Canadian immigration authorities about this...."

You could call the very appearance of the "telephone hot line" a provocation, no less, and a gross violation of the Olympic Charter, because Article 53 refers directly to banning any propaganda in the Olympic zone.

Such an obviously anti-Olympic "initiative" is also to be regretted because the "telephone hot line" is a dark stain on Calgary's Olympic background.

Reaction 'Uncomplimentary'

PM011605 Moscow SOVETSKIY SPORT in Russian 31 Jan 88 p 4

[Yu. Mitin article under the rubric "How a Provocation Is Prepared": "Where the Lines Lead from the 'Red Telephone'"]

[Text] For what purpose do you think Olympic villages—hostels of a kind for athletes for the duration of the games—are created?

The Olympic Charter is laconic about this: "...So that all team members and officials are housed in one place and are able to eat at moderate prices." So any additional efforts made by the organizers of each Olympic Games to create optimum conditions for the sportsmen over and above the program minimum designated in the charter are always greeted with gratitude and enthusiasm by the games participants.

Soviet sportsmen, in particular, regarded warmly and with complete trust the promises made and intentions expressed by the organizers of the Calgary Olympics to create in the capital of the 15th Winter Games "the best Olympic village in their entire history," and moreover with its branches in the other Olympic competition centers not lagging behind. This is how the organizers themselves advertise their Olympic village: "The priority task of the Olympic Organizing Committee-88 is to create the very best conditions for athletes in terms of food, accommodation, medical services, leisure, transport services, and safety within the framework of their Olympic activity." Further: "The delegation of past Olympic champions and members of the International Olympic Committee Sportsmen's Commission, which visited the Calgary Olympic Village, made this comment on it: Everything that has been built there is worthy of 'five stars'" (the rating for top-category hotels—editor's note).

All that may be so. The members and officials of the various national teams gathering for the Winter Olympics in Calgary will soon be able to see for themselves whether all the services envisaged by the organizers will surround them with warmth and concern. But at the same time, you can bet that the same delegation of International Olympic Committee representatives whose opinion is cited by the hosts of the Calgary games hardly approved of (if it was informed of it) their venture in providing an additional service—the notorious "red telephone," which SOVETSKIY SPORT reported on 28 January.

Let us recall what we are talking about. In a report from the capital of the 1988 Winter Olympics, AFP revealed that the Canadian immigration service has also decided for its part to do the games participants a "good turn" by installing red telephones in the Olympic villages which, it is planned, all who wish to betray their motherland will use to call the service's officials direct. Officials working in shifts 24 hours a day will suggest what further action to take.... To rephrase the saying, this is a service not for friendship's sake, helping to "create a better, more tranquil world." It is in direct violation of the Olympic Charter, which bluntly prohibits any kind of propaganda of a political nature on Olympic territory. What other view could be taken of undisguised incitement to betray one's motherland and the creation of the necessary conditions for doing so?

On the other hand, the report that it is also proposed to use "Foothills"—one of seven hospitals set aside for medical services to the games participants and visitors—as a kind of immigration service "quarantine camp," where potential traitors, so it has been announced, will wait for their fate to be decided under guard by police officers so as to rule out any "external influence," sounded like a knife scratching on glass against the general buoyant background of Calgary's readiness for the Winter Olympics....

Following the publication of the article "Provocation Using... the Telephone" in SOVETSKIY SPORT, the telephones (of various colors, including red) in the editorial office became overheated with calls. Readers, ordinary physical fitness fans, sportsmen, candidates for the Calgary trip, and well-known Soviet athletes are very uncomplimentary about the way the organizers of the 15th Winter Olympiad have let themselves be led along by the country's political forces, for which the noble Olympic ideals are 10th-rate concepts.

Here, for example, is what Galina Kulakova, four-times Olympic ski racing champion, told us:

"I have participated in four Winter Olympics. I have seen all sorts of things, but never before have I heard of 'surprises' like the one the Canadian immigration service is preparing for the participants in the 1988 Winter Games. The scandalous 'red telephone' venture smacks strongly of provocation. For whom is it designed? The sportsmen getting ready to go to Calgary to demonstrate their skill in honest struggle and to maintain the honor of their motherland's flag will hardly include renegades capable of falling for this cheap bait. But not even this is

the crux of the matter. Petty intrigues by provocateurs in sport discredit the lofty ideals proclaimed by the Olympic Charter. I believe there is still time for Olympians to end their intrigues.!"

Galina Kulakova is echoed by Olympic champion Vyacheslav Fetisov, captain of the Soviet hockey team:

"Well, thank you! You have done me a good turn.... So this is what I do: I pick up the telephone receiver and express to the policeman at the other end of the line a desire to acquire a different motherland. There he is, nice and warm and ready to do anything. Take me with open arms....

"Honestly, the guys and I read the SOVETSKIY SPORT article 'Provocation Using... the Telephone," and we found it at once droll and offensive. Droll because it all seemed so like some very old detective story. And offensive because once again, for the umpteenth time, someone wants to darken the bright Olympic ideas and warm his hands on the Olympic flame. Only it is dangerous—he could burn himself!

"The Soviet hockey team resolutely protests the obvious provocation by the Canadian immigration service, which has decided to do a real disservice to the participants in the 1988 Winter Olympics and, at the same time, to its organizers. I am sure that the Olympians in Calgary will not need the 'red telephone' or turn to 'Foothills' for 'assistance'!"

Opposition Voiced on U.S. Funding of Contras

LD031754 Moscow TASS in English 1639 GMT 1 Feb 88

[Text] Moscow February 1 TASS—TASS commentator Vladimir Shekhovtsov:

The voting in the U.S. Congress on the request of the White House for new appropriation of many millions of dollars as aid to bands of Nicaraguan contras, to be held on February 3, causes concern and nervousness among representatives of the Reagan administration. The matter is that the policy of the White House in Central America, the banking on a military solution to problems of the region meets with the growing opposition on the Capitol Hill.

The House Majority Leader Thomas Foley, speaking in the NBC broadcast, expressed the confidence that the White House request would be rejected. He said he viewed this as a confirmation of the congressional support for the process of peace settlement in Central America. To vote for additional military aid to the contras means to torpedo that process, he said.

Thomas Foley noted that the overthrow of the existing Nicaraguan Government has been and remains the aim of the White House policy. Over six years the administration used every method—direct and indirect, covert and overt, legal and illegal—to render aid to the contras. The administration has been constantly proclaiming its striving for a diplomatic solution of problems of the region, but in reality it has been constantly attempting to resolve them in a military way, the congressman said.

His words are confirmed by reports that appeared in the U.S. press in the recent days. THE MIAMI HERALD notes that the Reagan administration has prepared a plan to continue financial backing of the contras via foreign governments, if the Congress does not endorse aid for these purposes. The newspaper notes that the same tactic was used by Oliver North for aid to the contras in 1986 bypassing the congressional ban.

U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz hastened to reject these press reports. He said that the administration does not intend to look for sources of financing anti-Nicaraguan units that would not be controlled by the Congress. But political circles familiar with the materials of the investigation of the Iran-contra affair received Shultz's assurances with distrust. It is known that during the secret operation for the sales of arms to Iran and transfer of funds thus earned for the financing of the contras, the Reagan administration also used governments of a number of third countries, specifically Israel, Saudi Arabia, Brunei, Taiwan, South Korea. The secretary of state visited Brunei in 1986 and following talks with the sultan of that country ensured that Brunei grants ten million dollars to the contras.

A public opinion survey held by THE NEW YORK TIMES jointly with the CBS television network shows that 58 percent of Americans are against aid to the contras. The manoeuvers of the U.S. Administration to continue backing the contras confirm the intention of the White House to ignore the will of the majority of the Americans and to continue banking on the course that has brought it to the Irangate scandal.

Reagan Remarks 'Attack' Sandinist Government

LD012337 Moscow TASS in English 2329 GMT 1 Feb 88

[Text] Washington February 2 TASS—By TASS correspondent Igor Ignatyev:

President Reagan used his remarks to the annual National Religious Broadcasters Convention to ground once again his request for new American aid to the Nicaraguan contras, submitted for consideration to the U.S. Congress.

Having repeated his previous attacks against the Sandinist government, the President tried to present his request for new financial aid to the contras as all but the last hope of making Nicaragua comply with the Guatemala arrangements.

He claimed that "the position of force" was the only way to peace in that region.

The President's remarks show that the U.S. Administration is not in the least interested in facilitating the search for ways of establishing lasting peace in Central America.

U.S. Seeking 'Separate' Middle East Peace Plan

LD011855 Moscow TASS in English 1819 GMT 1 Feb 88

[Text] Moscow February 1 TASS—TASS commentator Vladimir Gavrilov writes:

The newspaper NEW YORK POST has reported that the United States is drawing up a new plan for the Middle East. The Reagan administration put forward a new plan of peace between the Israelis and the Palestinians through resumption of the negotiations on the so-called "administrative autonomy" for the population of the captured Arab lands.

Elaborating this idea, Washington maintained close contacts with the Tel Aviv government. Israeli Prime Minister Shamir said in this connection that his country "was ready to participate in peace negotiations on American terms" and made it clear that what is meant is a temporary settlement, "with its formula today somewhat differing from the one that the United States and Israel drew up a few years ago".

What is the difference between the notorious "new formula" and the Camp David deal which was earlier proposed by Washington and Tel Aviv? The new element in it are shorter dates of imposing notorious "limited autonomy" upon the Palestinians on the Israeli-occupied Arab lands.

The project of meagre "autonomy" which actually legalises the Israeli occupation of the native Arab lands and ignores the inalienable rights of the Palestinians, have long been unanimously rejected by the Palestine Liberation Organization, the sole legitimate representative of the Arab people of Palestine, the population of the Tel Aviv-captured Arab lands, the overwhelming majority of Arab countries, broad circles of the progressive world public. But the Israeli premier is in a hurry to approve the White House's new attempt to push the cause of the Middle East settlement into the channel of separate deals: "I prefer this idea to an international conference which I do not accept at all", he said.

It is to be noted that the United States is trying to impose a "new plan" of the Middle East settlement right at a time when Tel Aviv forced repressions, unprecedented for their brutality, upon the insurgent Palestinians in the occupied lands. The impression is that the American Administration is seeking to give urgent assistance to its strategic ally which found itself in a crisis situation, to divert the attention of the world public from the bloody repression being perpetrated against civilians of the occupied Arab lands. Besides, Washington is thus trying to ensure consolidation of its own strategic positions in that important area of the globe. This is obviously the aim of a trip of special representative of the White House Philip Habib and his meetings with Arab leaders. The conclusion prompt itself that in actual fact the United States is not interested at all in having a genuine peace settlement in the Middle East and holding an international peace conference, but it is seeking new separate deals to be imposed upon Arab peoples. [sentence as received]

More on Reagan-Mubarak White House Talks

LD282259 Moscow TASS in English 2228 GMT 28 Jan 88

[Text] Washington January 28 (TASS)—American officials reported that the talks between U.S. President Reagan and President Husni Mubarak of Egypt focused on seeking ways out of the deadlocked process of peaceful settlement in the Middle East and on the Iran-Iraq war.

The Egyptian president expressed not only his own opinion but also that of other Arab leaders who believe that the USA can help draft steps to break this deadlock. The presidents discussed the role of an international Middle Eastern conference in settling the conflict. However, a high-ranking official of the administration made it clear after the White House meeting ended that the United States would agree to the convocation of the conference on condition a format, acceptable for Washington, was drafted, leading to the start of direct talks between Israel and its Arab neighbours.

The Egyptian president urged the U.S. Administration to reduce American naval presence in the Persian Gulf in order to lessen tensions in the region. However, Reagan reiterated the U.S. commitment not to withdraw its vessels from the Persian Gulf.

The talks at the White House also focused on the arms control issues. The Egyptian president expressed satisfaction with the recent signing of the Soviet-U.S. Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles.

U.S., Angola Open New Round of Talks

LD290925 Moscow TASS in English 0906 GMT 29 Jan 88

[Text] Luanda January 29 TASS—Angola and the United States opened a new round of talks on settlement in southern Africa in the Angolan capital Thursday.

The talks were resumed last summer after a two-year interval brought about by a June 1985 decision of the U.S. Congress to repeal the Clark Amendment banning military aid to the UNITA terrorist group.

The Angolan Ministry of Foreign Affairs said in a statement that the current talks were part of Angola's efforts to find a peaceful solution of southern African problems in line with U.N. Security Council Resolution 435 on granting independence to Namibia.

The United States and racist-ruled South Africa have for several years now been blocking the resolution's implementation by artificially linking the Namibian issue with the presence of Cuban troops in Angola.

Angola Stand 'Reaffirmed'

LD300939 Moscow TASS in English 0730 GMT 30 Jan 88

[Text] Luanda January 30 TASS—A regular round of Angolan-American negotiations on questions of settlement of the situation in the south of Africa ended in Angola's capital on Friday.

In the course of a two-day meeting representatives of the Governments of Angola and the United States exchanged opinions on ways of solving problems of the region and reached an accord to continue the negotiations, says a statement issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Angola. The Angolan side reaffirmed its principled stand—the question of the pullout of Cuban internationalist forces from the country is directly linked with withdrawal of South African troops from the Angolan territory, termination of the aid to bandits of the puppet UNITA group from the United State, the Pretoria regime and other countries, compliance with the U.N. Security Council's Resolution 435 on granting independence to Namibia and respect for Angola's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Jubilee of USSR-U.S. Cultural Agreement Marked

Culture Minister Comments

PM011857 Moscow SOVETSKAYA KULTURA in Russian 26 Jan 88 p 7

[Report on interview with USSR Minister of Culture V. Zakharov by R. Chernyy, as part of a "Dialogue Across the Ocean" feature: "For Mutual Understanding"; first three paragraphs are introduction]

[Text] Tomorrow, 27 January, will be the 30th anniversary of the signing of the first USSR-U.S. agreement on exchanges in the spheres of culture, technology, and education.

The program of planned jubilee celebrations that is to be held simultaneously in the Soviet Union and the United States includes meetings between statesmen and representatives of science, culture, and the public from both countries, seminars devoted to questions on the development and interaction of cultures, and concerts by masters of the arts.

On the eve of a Soviet delegation's departure for Washington, we talked with its leader, USSR Minister of Culture V. Zakharov, and with Susan Eisenhower, famous U.S. public figure and president of the D. Eisenhower Institute of World Problems, who played an active part in organizing the commemorative jubilee.

The 27 January 1958 agreement is the first such treaty in the postwar (and even prewar) history of relations between our countries. Its signing was truly a command of the time. Even in those years, there was an increasingly evident need for global cooperation (primarily between the Soviet Union and the United States) in solving many of the most important contemporary problems that had emerged with particular urgency primarily because of the threat of nuclear war. And the proper solution needs an atmosphere of mutual understanding and mutual trust, with contacts in the cultural sphere being called on to play a special role in the creation of this atmosphere.

Indeed, the main importance of the agreement lay in the fact that it made a considerable contribution to eliminating the barrier of alienation and hostility. More than 80 Soviet collectives, including top opera and ballet companies and symphony orchestras, have toured the United States in the period since then. America has been regularly visited by Soviet theater and cinematography figures, writers, composers, and artists. During the same period our country has been visited by 60 major U.S. companies. There has been an active exchange of exhibitions. These are just a few examples of successful bilateral cooperation.

This cooperation entered a crisis phase in early 1980 when the U.S. Administration, citing various reasons, unilaterally broke off cultural contacts with the Soviet Union. It is well-known that ignorance generates mistrust. U.S. bourgeois propaganda took advantage of the extremely unfavorable situation in relations between the two countries and applied much energy to again distort the image of our country and our people and to revive the old myth of the "Soviet military threat."

But even under these conditions, the Soviet Union continued to widely inform Soviet people about U.S. culture and art. For example, in 1979-1984 alone the USSR published 1,784 titles of books by U.S. authors in a total print run of 203 million copies. Soviet theaters staged presentations of plays by U.S. playwrights.

The November 1985 summit meeting in Geneva breathed hope into the hearts of millions of people all over the world that relations between the two states would improve and the international climate as a whole would become healthier. The joint agreement signed at that time on contacts, exchanges, and cooperation in the sphere of science, technology, education, culture, and other spheres marked the beginning of a new stage in the

development of Soviet-U.S. cultural relations. Much work was done in 2 years—1986 and 1987—to repair the mechanism of cultural exchanges between the USSR and the United States.

The Washington summit meeting and the signing of the treaty on intermediate and shorter-range missiles gave a new boost to the successful development of bilateral cultural cooperation. Detente in the military sphere invariably furthers the release of peoples' creative and spiritual energy and the consolidation of an atmosphere of mutual trust between them. Cultural figures in our countries sense the establishment of this atmosphere particularly keenly now, in the present historical context, when the new political thinking is increasingly boldly squeezing out the old and obsolete stereotypes. This favorable process is organically linked with intensive quests for new ways of cooperation. Here is just one example—the Soviet Music Festival that opens in Boston in March.

In addition to this, exchanges of major performing companies will be resumed this very year. For example, the USSR Moscow Ballet Theater, the USSR State Symphony Orchestra, the Leningrad Malyy Drama Theater that will take part in the First International Art Festival in New York, the Lithuanian SSR Vilnius Youth Theater, the Ukrainian SSR Virskiy Dance Ensemble, and other companies and soloists will be touring the United States. Talks are under way on performances in the USSR by the Harlem Ballet Company, the New York Philharmonic Orchestra, and other companies.

Are there any difficulties in the development of cultural exchanges between the USSR and the United States? Of course there are, just as in any major undertaking. The U.S. side, in particular, has repeatedly drawn our attention to some alleged "quantitative imbalance" in exchanges. Indeed, there were more Soviet artists traveling to the United States in these years, for example. But the "balance" must be viewed as a whole, in its totality. And here we are talking about cinematography, book publishing, and the staging of plays by Soviet and U.S. playwrights. In these spheres, we are doing much more than the Americans. It must also be said that exchanges of major and prestigious companies require considerable financial assistance by the state. We are financing tours of the United States by Soviet artistic companies, and of the USSR by U.S. companies. We hope that the U.S. side will take similar steps.

It is also necessary to mention the observance of "qualitative balance" in USSR-U.S. cultural relations. We are sending to the United States our best artistic companies. Hence we are entitled to expect to meet the best examples of the very best U.S. art has to offer.

There is, alas, one more problem—the safety of Soviet artists in the United States. The provocations which, alas, occurred during the American tour by the I. Moiseyev ensemble, the symphony orchestra led by Ye. Svetlanov, and the Bolshoy Theater Ballet Company can hardly be said to have promoted the development of cultural cooperation.

But all these difficulties can be overcome provided there is the genuine desire to do so.

Our delegation will take part in jubilee celebrations in Washington to mark the 30th anniversary of the signing of the first agreement on cultural exchanges. This mission is as pleasant as it is responsible. Our meeting will take place soon after M.S. Gorbachev's visit to Washington, at a time when the U.S. Senate will be starting to examine the question of the ratification of the treaty on intermediate and shorter-range missiles. Thus we feel involved in a work of great historical importance, and we will try to contribute as much as we can to its successful conclusion. After all, we are going not only to sum up results but also to discuss our future cooperation.

Gorbachev Sends Greetings

PM291257 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 Jan 88 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Road to Trust"]

[Text] The signing 30 years ago of the first Soviet-U.S. agreement in the sphere of culture, technology, and education was an embodiment of the sense of mutual respect and interest that the Soviet and American peoples have for each other. A ceremonial meeting of representatives of Moscow's public held in the House of Unions' Hall of Columns on 27 January was devoted to this date.

Those present applauded the greetings from M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, to the Soviet and American participants in the events devoted to the 30th anniversary of the signing of the agreement.

It was stressed at the meeting that the agreement for the first time placed our exchanges on a firm international law footing and ensured their progressive development.

It was noted that extensive opportunities are currently opening up to comprehensively develop and deepen humanitarian cooperation between the USSR and the United States.

J. Matlock, U.S. ambassador to the USSR, who spoke at the meeting, read out a message from President R. Reagan to the participants in the anniversary events. It noted that there is no better way to overcome distrust and misunderstanding than the path of contacts between peoples in the sphere of culture and education. The U.S. President expressed the hope that exchanges of students,

artists, young specialists, and people from various professions would be expanded. Without ignoring our profound differences, he called for efforts to be redoubled in order to ensure better mutual understanding between the peoples of the United States and the Soviet Union.

A gala concert was held in conclusion.

Shevardnadze Holds Reception

PM291943 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 Jan 88 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Anniversary Occasion"]

[Text] On 27 January E.A. Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister, gave a reception on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the signing of the first Soviet-U.S. agreement on exchanges in the sphere of culture, technology, and education.

The reception was attended by A.F. Dobrynin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, heads of CPSU Central Committee departments, USSR ministers, chairmen of USSR State Committees, leaders of USSR creative unions, representatives of science and culture, production pacesetters, and representatives of the clergy.

Also present were J.F. Matlock, U.S. ambassador to the USSR, diplomatic staff, representatives of U.S. business, scientific, and cultural circles currently visiting Moscow, and Soviet and foreign journalists.

Greeting those present, E.A. Shevardnadze noted that the 30th anniversary of the first intergovernmental agreement on exchanges was an event of uncommon importance, especially now. This is emphasized in greetings messages from M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and U.S. President R. Reagan. The minister spoke of the Soviet Union's desire to further deepen Soviet-American contacts in all spheres.

J.F. Matlock expressed the hope that relations between the United States and the USSR will continue to develop favorably in the future.

State Department Ceremony

LD281957 Moscow TASS in English 1930 GMT 28 Jan 88

[Text] Washington January 28 TASS—A ceremony devoted to the 30th anniversary of the signing of the first agreement between the USSR and the USA in exchanges in the area of culture, technology and education was held at the U.S. Department of State. A Soviet delegation headed by USSR Minister of Culture Vasiliy Zakharov took part in the ceremony. It was received by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, Director of the United States Information Agency (USIA) Charles Wick, heads of the Eisenhower Foundation, among them Susan Eisenhower, granddaughter of the former president of the United States. To the applause of those present, USSR Ambassador to the USA Yuriy Dubinin read out a message from General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev.

Welcoming those present at the ceremony, Secretary of State George Shultz read out a message from President of the United States Ronald Reagan. "It is my firm belief," the message says, "that there is no better way to reduce mistrust and misunderstanding than through cultural and educational contacts between peoples. General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev and I reaffirmed the importance of these contacts when we met in Washington just a few weeks ago. It is my hope that we can expand exchanges of students, artists, young professionals, and people from all walks of life to build the bridges needed to move into the 1990s and beyond."

USSR Minister of Culture Vasiliy Zakharov expressed the confidence that now, after the Soviet-U.S. summit held in December 1987, when both countries have signed a historic treaty on the elimination of an entire class of nuclear armaments the time has come to develop Soviet-American relations constructively, to widen and deepen mutually advantageous exchanges between the USSR and the USA which will undoubtedly promote the strengthening of universal peace.

Representatives of broad circles of the American public, congressmen and representatives of the leading bodies of the U.S. mass media took part in the ceremony.

Fishing Consultations With U.S. Held in Moscow

PM021047 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 1 Feb 88 Morning Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Consultations Held"]

[Text] Soviet-U.S. fishing consultations were held in Moscow 26-28 January during which a broad range of questions of mutual interest were discussed.

It was agreed that the sides will reach an accord in the near future under which U.S. fishing boats will have access to the USSR economic zone on the same conditions as those which at present allow Soviet fishing boats access to the exclusive economic zone of the United States and under the provisions of the Soviet-U.S. agreement on fishing.

The delegations have agreed to create, in the near future, a bilateral Soviet-U.S. working group on fishing in the Bering Sea.

Meeting Ends in Agreement

LD292034 Moscow TASS in English 1956 GMT 29 Jan 88

[Text] Moscow January 29 (TASS)—Specific measures aimed at expanding Soviet-American cooperation in fishing were agreed upon during bilateral consultations which ended here. In "the opinion of both delegations led by Vyacheslav Zilanov, head of the Foreign Relations Department of the USSR Ministry of Fisheries, and Edward Wolfe, deputy assistant secretary for oceans and fisheries affairs, the consultations were very constructive and fruitful.

In the near future it is planned to reach an understanding which would grant American fishing vessels the same rights to fish in the Soviet 200-mile economic zone, which are enjoyed by Soviet fishermen in the U.S. economic zone. It is also planned to set up a Soviet-American working group on fishing in the Bering Sea. It will include lawyers and scientists of the two countries who will get down to drafting recommendations on tackling problems pertaining to intensification of fishing in that sea. The first meeting of the working group is scheduled for February-March.

The programme of a conference of Soviet and U.S. fishermen was completed. It will be held soon in the Soviet Union. The agenda includes questions of setting up joint ventures and developing scientific and technical relations in the industry.

The USSR and the USA have accumulated great experience of cooperation in fisheries. Under a bilateral intergovernment agreement, American fishermen operating off the U.S. coast hand over caught fish to Soviet mother ships for processing. These operations are arranged by the joint Soviet-American firm Marine Resources Company established in 1976. Bilateral trade in fishing and fish-processing equipment stepped up in the past few months.

UPI Cited on U.S. Delta Rocket Test Launch

LD011431 Moscow TASS in English 1411 GMT 1 Feb 88

[Text] New York February 1 TASS—By TASS correspondent Anatoliy Lazarev:

A Delta rocket will be launched shortly from Cape Canaveral, Florida, within the framework of the U.S. Strategic Defence Initiative programme.

According to UPI news agency, the experiment, to cost 200 million dollars, will become the most sophisticated ever space test of "Star Wars" technology.

11 satellites and four missiles will be launched by the booster to act as "enemy" missiles. The newest sensor gauges on board the Delta and the satellites will secure missile detection, tracking and guidance for space interceptors. Besides, about 250 land-based radars will control the testing.

NEWSWEEK magazine reported that this would be the first test of a system to detect the launch and track the flight of a missile, which would constitute one of the major components of the SDI programme.

The sensors are capable of detecting an approaching missile by the flames jetting from its nozzle.

Korniyenko on Group's Visit to U.S. Congress

LD020915 Moscow TASS in English 0804 GMT 2 Feb 88

[Text] Moscow February 2 (TASS)—The atmosphere marking Soviet parliamentarians' visit to the United States has been largely due to the influence of the December summit in Washington, a member of the delegation of the Soviet MP's said upon return home.

Georgiy Korniyenko, a member of the Foreign Relations Commission of the Soviet of the Union, which is one of the two chambers of the Soviet parliament, was speaking in a TASS interview at Sheremetyevo Airport today.

The delegation from the parliamentary group of the USSR visited the United States at the invitation of U.S. Congress.

Speaking of their meeting with its members, Korniyenko, who is also first deputy head of the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee's International Department, said:

"Everybody we met and talked with expressed the hope for relations between our two countries, parliaments and people to continue to develop.

"It is the common opinion of all members of our delegation that the visit represented another step forward in developing regular parliament-to-parliament contacts, including those on a wide range of problems connected with efforts to stop the arms race and cooperation in the humanitarian field."

Korniyenko added that during the visit the delegation leader had conveyed to the Senate leadership a letter from the chairmen of the two chambers of the Supreme Soviet (parliament) of the USSR proposing machinery for regular joint consideration at parliamentary level of matters concerning humanitarian cooperation and human rights in the two countries.

"Our meetings with congressmen covered also the issue of ratifying the INF treaty. During the exchanges of opinions mutual preoccupation was expressed about some points connected with the ratification process.

"Concern was voiced about possible difficulties that could be encountered during the treaty's examination in U.S. Congress and the Supreme Soviet of the USSR.

"Nonetheless, most of the participants in the discussions agreed that the treaty should be endorsed because this historic document meets the interests of not only our two coutnries, but also of all nations, the interests of preserving and enhancing world peace," Korniyenko said.

Carlucci Supports Missile Modernization Program

LD020004 Moscow TASS in English 2353 GMT 1 Feb 88

[Text] Washington February 2 TASS—By TASS correspondent Igor Borisenko:

U.S. Defense Secretary Frank Carlucci made a report on the Soviet-American treaty on intermediate-and shorter-range missiles at the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on Monday.

He describes the agreement "as a major achievement in arms control", but at the same time declared that "the INF treaty should not be considered, or become, a step toward the denuclearization of Europe."

The Pentagon chief claimed that "independent of the agreement", NATO should modernize both conventional and tactical nuclear forces, namely to develop a new tactical missile instead of the currently deployed Lance missile system, create a new "air-to-surface" tactical missile, as well as new atomic artillery ammunition.

Carlucci openly announced his intentions to seek that U.S. NATO allies pay special attention to programmes of modernization of their tactical nuclear arms and conventional weapons.

Cranston, Nitze Rebut Helms at INF Hearings

PM021349 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Jan 88 Second Edition p 5

[Own correspondent V. Gan dispatch: "Opponents of Common Sense"]

[Text] Washington—...Hearings are taking place in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, which is considering an agreement unprecedented in international history: the Soviet-U.S. Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles.

During all these days—since 25 January—J. Helms, Republican senator from North Carolina, has been swaggering "in the arena," that is, in the committee sessions room. Leader of the ultrarightists on Capitol Hill, Helms suffers from an allergy to any mention of the possibility of cooperation with the Soviet Union in resolving a particular problem.

The Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles, which was signed at the Washington meeting by M.S. Gorbachev and R. Reagan after 6 years of difficult negotiations and has been submitted by the White House for discussion by the Senate, irritates him ineffably.

Today's hearings were no exception. As soon as he was given the floor, Helms once again set about demolishing the treaty point by point. "The Soviets are already violating it," the senator said, pointing to a handy diagram. "The data they have submitted vastly understate the number of SS-20 missiles in their arsenal," he announced, referring to some estimate by the Pentagon's intelligence agency, according to which the Soviet Union, on exchanging information on the existence of intermediate- and shorter-range missiles, said that it has one-third less than it really has.

Although these tirades were addressed to Paul Nitze, the President's special assistant and ambassador-at-large for arms control matters, A. Cranston, deputy leader of the Democrats in the Senate, could not endure it. "I have familiarized myself with all the materials to which the senator refers. I do not think that all this gives grounds for questioning our ability to monitor the treaty." Informing his intrigued audience that the diagram submitted by Helms was essentially a forgery containing 12-year-old data, Cranston said, to chuckles from those present: "You rework your arguments day after day, arguments which have already been rejected and refuted for 3 days in succession."

Helms was also answered quite weightily by Nitze himself, who declared that the INF Treaty lends itself to effective monitoring. He did not deny that there can be no question of absolute guarantees of its observance. However, Nitze said, the agreement "creates an entire network of interconnected restrictions and measures which make it possible to carry out careful verification and to hamper deception." On the whole, Nitze said, "the treaty's implementation without delay would accord with the security interests of the United States and its allies."

Helms, however, is ready to make mincemeat of anyone who supports the treaty. Of course, it is not so much a question of the senator himself as the fact that Helms reflects the sentiments of very influential U.S. circles, for which the existing status quo is like an earthly nirvana. They are prepared to do anything to preserve it.

U.S. Ultra-Right May Hinder INF Ratification

OW010917 Moscow Television Service in Russian 0008 GMT 28 Jan

[Vsevolod Solovyev commentary from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] The U.S. Congress has begun the ratification process for the Soviet-U.S. Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles. Here is our commentary by Vsevolod Solovyev:

Hello, comrades. Discussion of this Soviet-U.S. treaty began in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee with a speech by George Shultz, U.S. secretary of state. Hearings on the treaty will also take place in the Senate Armed Forces and Intelligence Committees. It is presumed that they will end by late February after which, in early March, the recommendations of the committees will be submitted to the full Senate.

According to the U.S. Constitution, there are three possible decisions at which the Senate can arrive. The first possibility would be for the Senate to vote for or against ratification, thereby adopting or rejecting the treaty in its present form. The second possibility would be for the Senate to adopt the treaty conditionally, attaching amendments, conditions, or various riders and memoranda to the resolution on ratification. This would place on the U.S. Administration and the Soviet Union the burden of adopting the Senate amendments, the holding of new talks on the treaty, or its complete rejection. The third possibility would be for the Senate to adopt no decision at all. In this case the treaty will have to await review until the President takes it back or the Senate returns it to the President.

Presently, the prevailing opinion is that the treaty's ratification is practically guaranteed. This opinion is based on the fact that the treaty enjoys strong public support and that only 10-12 of the 100 senators oppose it, whereas ratification requires a two-thirds majority. In other words, a minimum of 34 senators must vote against the treaty to block its adoption.

However, despite the obvious majority of treaty supporters in the Senate, ratification cannot be considered a fait accompli or a mere formality. Ultra-conservative elements maintain that this treaty is detrimental to national security and have initiated a powerful campaign aimed at forcing the Senate to adopt amendments to the treaty that will, for all intents and purposes, bury it. In contrast to ratification, only a simple majority is required to adopt amendments to the treaty. In other words, the support of only 51 senators is required, and this is what the ultra-right elements are depending on. It is precisely their activities that prevent one from being able to categorically state that Congress will ratify the Soviet-U.S. Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles.

TV Film on Washington Summit Reviewed

PM291347 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Jan 88 Second Edition p 5

[S. Tikhomirov article: "On the Eve of a Television Premiere: Sixty-Two Minutes of History"]

[Text] ...The lights dim and for several minutes the video camera seems to be frozen: There on the screen can be seen the lawn of the White House—the U.S. Presidential residence—the Soviet flag, and a Marine band playing the Soviet anthem. What is it, "Are the Russians coming"...?

Yes, they did come. But they did not come in tanks, festooned with machine-gun ammunition belts, and wearing caps with ear-flaps in the way that specious Hollywood movies have frequently depicted them, in an attempt to frighten the Americans. Later, on the last day of the Soviet leader's stay in Washington, when he unexpectedly stopped his car in the street and got out to greet ordinary Americans, one passer-by said: "That guy's a pure genius! Now that I have seen him face-to-face, I no longer feel afraid."

Yes, that will be later. Later, because it began with Geneva and the Geneva declaration by the leaders of the two great powers that nuclear war should never be launched and that it could have no victor. Later, because Geneva was followed by Reykjavik, where the ideas of new thinking were destined to mark the political milestone that raised Soviet-American dialogue to a new level. This too is described to us by the makers of the television film "Washington, December 1987," (Writer V. Zorin, Director A. Khukhrikov, Chief Cameraman V. Dolina), which is devoted to the results of the visit to the United States by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

The events of those truly historic days are still seemingly fresh in everyone's minds. Dozens, hundreds of articles and commentaries have been written about them. Finally, thanks to television, millions witnessed and experienced together that moment when M.S. Gorbachev and R. Reagan signed the "death warrant" for a whole class of nuclear armaments, when the leaders of the two great powers exchanged pens before the whole world.

The packed 62 minutes of the film, which I would describe as the first full-blown television response to the Washington meeting, is no ordinary documentary chronicle, although it does reflect the most important events of the Soviet delegation's visit. It contains moments of the ceremonial meeting at the White House, the two leaders shaking hands after the signing of the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles, and excerpts from M.S. Gorbachev's speech to representatives of the American public, business circles, and political figures. The film is marked by the freshness of the journalistic reporting of the facts, despite the fact that all this was broadcast live to Moscow by television several times a day. At the same time, this film about those December days in Washington also provides food for thought. Each of us is, as it were, invited to think again about why just a few years back the White House not only said over and over again that "you can't do business with the Russians" but also called the USSR the "evil empire." We are also asked by the filmmakers—who were eyewitnesses to the summit meeting—to consider and understand Washington's "1987 metamorphoses" and examine them.

Of course, you can agree or disagree with certain purely directorial "devices" used in the film. I am more than certain that shots of free food being handed out to homeless people wearing brand-new jeans and snow-white socks and sneakers will confuse some young television viewers, who will say it is unconvincing. But you cannot blame the filmmakers for that; they are being frank with the viewer. They show us America as it is.

The United States, Washington, December 1987—those December days that shook the world and made history. There were no winners or losers at the meeting because success was mutual. However, as the CPSU Central Committee general secretary said on his return to Moscow, "It is for the moment too early, too early to talk about a radical breakthrough in our relations, if you stick firmly to the facts and do not lapse into exaggeration."

Is such a breakthrough to be? Is mankind to enter the 21st century without fear for its future? That depends on our patience, goodwill, and unshakable faith that nuclear weapons can and must be destroyed. Otherwise, there can be no tomorrow. This is vividly described in the film, which records an important page in modern history.

Senator Paul Simon's Nomination Chances Assessed
PM011433 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 23 Jan 88 First Edition p 3

[S. Volovets article under the rubric "Campaign Marathon": "Not Like the Others. Senator Paul Simon's Chances of Success"]

[Text] "If no one in the United States is born equal, then everyone dies equal." This aphoristic assessment of Americans' chances is taken from a letter sent about 30 years ago by a young member of the Illinois legislature to the citizens' rights fighter Martin Luther King. The reason he sent it was the refusal of a racist funeral director to bury a deceased negro. The author of the letter was Paul Simon, and his behavior at that time was bold and risky—at least politically—for the racist southern state of Illinois.

Today Simon is quite often compared with President Reagan. This is why: With the number and, accordingly, the variety of candidates for the White House from both the Republican and Democratic Parties, I think Simon stands out most of all for his conviction of the correctness of the political principles he stands for (irrespective of their true value) and for his ability to convey this integrity and conviction to any audience. Many disagree with him, but it is difficult to find anybody who considers Simon a professional U.S. politician, or, more accurately, an intriguer who wishes to appear to be someone dependent on the political climate.

The confidence he radiates is paradoxically enhanced by his external appearance. Many campaign specialists in the United States seriously consider Simon's appearance to be a hindrance to taking up the highest state posts, when 90% of the time, the voter gets his politics and politicians from the television screen. He is 58 years old but looks much older. Somewhat clumsy, in a baggy, almost always dark blue suit, with a bow tie and wearing horn-rimmed spectacles, he creates the impression of a provincial who is deliberately indifferent to his own external appearance.

But having in May last year entered the exhausting, months-long presidential race, Simon, it seems, is learning to use his unpresentable external appearance as an asset. In public speeches, he often says: "If you want a gift-wrapped candidate, I am not your man. But if you want a politician who can be believed, you have him." And Todd Domke [name as published], Republican Party specialist in campaign strategy, believes that Simon's external appearance, which differs so much from the other candidates with their dazzling smiles, youthfulness that belies their age, and fashionable suits, really convinces people that the senator from Illinois can be trusted.

What are his chances today? He is not the favorite, but the alignment of forces after the return of Gary Hart to the election marathon makes him one of the leading candidates, at least, if the seven Democrats are not joined at a later stage by the governor of New York State, Mario Cuomo, or Senator William Bradley. It is considered that the return of Hart, who specialists in both parties do not take seriously despite poll findings in his favor, will inflict substantial damage on Congressman Richard Gephardt and Governor Michael Dukakis of Massachusetts. But Simon, on the contrary, stands to gain.

Whether this is so or not will be clear after 8 February, when the first meetings of party activists within the context of the campaign now underway in the country will take place in Iowa. During a Gallup poll conducted in this state in January, Simon occupied second place after Hart among the Democratic candidates. Of course, the sympathies of the electorate vary greatly from state to state, but the dynamics of Simon's success—who just 6 months ago was no better known than the southerner Jimmy Carter in his time—are indicative.

Although people in the United States love to repeat that the candidates' political platform has no practical meaning, this is really said more for effect. Paul Simon's election program is clearly outlined and is distinguished by its winning simplicity. It includes the basic tenets of the Democratic Party's political philosophy, which have always had the support of its traditional electorate.

These are higher taxation for the rich, the development of social insurance, state medical aid, and budget measures to reduce unemployment. He proposes two big programs. One envisages the creation of about 5 million

vacancies by means of developing public works. The second is the proposal to adopt legislation for broad measures of social aid to the aged during the first 60 days of the Presidency.

As always in such instances, his supporters and opponents ask where he will get the money for this. Simon shows that he can find it without a significant raise in taxes, if you exclude the higher tax rates for the very rich which have already been mentioned. Moreover, according to his calculations, it turns out that providing employment throught public works for millions of people who are now unemployed will even help to reduce the present enormous budget deficit. That is, instead of the allowances that the unemployed currently receive, the new workers will pay taxes into the state coffers. It is true that the majority of economists reckon there is something wrong with the arithmetic. Sometimes Simon's proposals look too particular or strangely detailed. For example, he proposes offering free telephones to the poor. In his opinion, this measure will improve their existence and even allow approximately 40,000 unemployed to find work (it is quicker and easier to make inquiries on the telephone than mooching about the streets).

One way or another, Simon's social ideas largely recall the approaches of Democrats from F. Roosevelt to J. Kennedy, and it is no accident that Simon willingly recalls their names in his campaign speeches. He believes Walter Mondale lost 4 years ago to Ronald Reagan precisely because he played down the Democratic Party's principles, trying to seem "no worse" than the Republicans. And of course, Mondale lost because of the absence of the inner confidence in his party's own rightness, which Reagan and Simon possess in equal degree.

In the foreign policy sphere, Simon's program seems, I think, the most radical in comparison to all the Democratic candidates. It includes reduced arms expenditure, halting the development of SDI, an immediate halt to nuclear tests, and a break with the counterrevolutionary forces in Nicaragua. It can be assumed that Simon is deliberately exaggerating his peace-loving intentions before the test of strength in Iowa, where the influence of diverse groups of peace supporters is more noticeable. It is tactically important for him to start well so as to gather speed toward the beginning of the "primaries," the election trials for the candidates in the various states—the first of which will be at the beginning of March, including that of 15 March in his native Illinois. It is quite possible that in the spring, his foreign policy views will shift somewhat—closer to the positions of the backbone of the Democratic Party.

Paul Simon has enormous experience in political activity at almost all levels of the U.S. state machine. The son of a Protestant minister, at 19 he left college without graduating and became a journalist, purchasing a small weekly newspaper in the city of Troy and doing battle against the local mafia, particularly against attempts by gangsters to put their own man into the Illinois state legislature. The bandit's placeman was exposed in the newspaper, but no one wanted to be a candidate, fearing revenge. Simon announced his own candidacy and became a state congressman at the age of 25. He was a state senator, a member of the House of Representatives and, finally, a senator.

This experience, knowledgeable people say, cannot be underestimated. So what about his unphotogenic appearance? Can a person who does not look like a TV hero become President of the United States?

It seems, say those same specialists, that even here things are not so bad for Simon. He stands out on the screen precisely because he is so different from all the rest.

In a word, very many people in the United States agree that if bright new figures do not emerge among the Democrats, Paul Simon has every chance of joining the leaders. And he knows how to take his chances....

China

Border Talks To Continue in Beijing in April

Talks End in Moscow

OW020905 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 0100 GMT 2 Feb 88

[Text] The first session of the working group of the government delegations for the talks on Soviet-Chinese border issues ended in Moscow on 1 February. The Soviet and Chinese sides discussed the issue of demarcation of eastern border of the two countries. In addition, it has been decided through consultation that this work will continue in Beijing in April 1988.

Rogachev Meets Chinese Delegation

LD011701 Moscow TASS international Service in Russian 1648 GMT 1 Feb 88

[Text] Moscow, 1 Feb (TASS)—The first session of the working group of the government delegations of the USSR and the PRC at the talks on border issues was held in Moscow from 20 January to 1 February. The Soviet and Chinese sides commenced a discussion of the issue of demarcation of the border line between the two countries in the eastern part of it. Accord was reached on continuation of this work in Beijing in April 1988, during the next session of the working group.

On 1 February the Chinese representatives in the working group were received by I.A. Rogachev, head of the Soviet Government delegation at the border talks and deputy USSR minister of foreign affairs. Yu Hongliang, PRC ambassador to the USSR, was present during the conversation.

Joint Border Trade Contract Signed in Nakhodka

PM011501 Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 4, Jan 88 (Signed to Press 21 Jan 88) p 20

["Own Information" report: "Expanding Border Trade"]

[Text] Maritime Kray—Representatives of the "Dalintorg" All-Union Association and the Export-Import Company of Jilin Province in the PRC signed in Nakhodka a contract on commodity exchange within the framework of border trade.

The accord which has been reached takes into account the interest in the development of trade between the two countries' neighboring regions. The Soviet side, for example, has pledged to supply mineral fertilizers, refrigerators, and other electric domestic appliances, while the Chinese side will supply peanuts and fruit. The time schedule and forms for the exchange of any necessary commercial information have also been set.

Jilin Province is the third Chinese participant in border trade, following the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region and Heilongjiang Province. They maintain commodity exchanges with some 10 oblasts and krays in the Far East and Siberia. Reciprocal deliveries doubled last year.

Pentagon Listing PRC as Enemy Decried

OW291331 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 0100 GMT 29 Jan 88

[Shakov commentary]

[Text] A U.S. Defense Department spokesman has issued a statement saying that China has been officially listed as an enemy of the United States for more than a year. Our station commentator Shakov writes as follows on this subject.

One should say that the U.S. authorities have been treating this matter with the utmost secrecy. Besides, representatives of the U.S. Government often issued statements reiterating its friendly relations with China. However, at the same time and under orders of the leading U.S. authorities, the U.S. Defense Department has placed China on the list of U.S. enemies. Furthermore, as announced today, the U.S. Defense Department intends to continue to include China on this list next year.

It can be said that this matter came to light accidentally. A court in the U.S. capital had been hearing a case concerning two Vietnam-born servicemen of the U.S. Navy. Because they were Vietnamese and Vietnam is on the list of U.S. enemies, the U.S. Defense Department barred them from performing top secret duties. As a result, they lodged a suit with the court. They said that according to what they knew, Vietnam and China were on this blacklist. Thereupon, the court summoned the Defense Department to send a representative to present evidence. This representative, not wanting to tarnish the honor of his colleagues of the Navy, stated that China was and still is on the list of U.S. enemies and will continue to be on that list in the future.

This affair clearly indicates the essence of the U.S. policy towards China. One can fully understand why the United States continues to pursue a two-China policy and maintains close political, economic, and military ties with the Taiwan regime. Every year, the United States supplies Taiwan with $700 million worth of arms. One can fully understand why the authorities in Washington list China on the blacklist of U.S. enemies and call Taiwan the most loyal and most dependable friend of the United States. One can understand why members of the U.S. Senate passed special laws to discredit the Chinese Government, accusing it of human rights violations in Xizang. The discriminatory trade measures of the United States against China are also understandable.

We can clearly see that everywhere the U.S. ruling clique's past and present policy of regarding socialist countries, including the Soviet Union and China, as enemies of the United States is evident.

A spokesman of the Chinese Foreign Ministry said that China has taken note of the fact that the U.S. Defense Department has placed China on the blacklist of U.S. enemies. He emphasized that listing China on the list of hostile countries is incompatible with the often publicly expressed official position of the U.S. Government.

U.S. Military Presence on Okinawa Viewed

OW010809 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 0600 GMT 30 Jan 88

[(Kuchin) commentary]

[Text] During the last few days, mammoth demonstrations have been held on Okinawa Island, Japan, because the activities of the U.S. Armed Forces there have aroused the anger of the local population. The U.S. Marines stationed there have been conducting artillery firing exercises, and more than 10 B-52 strategic bombers of the United States have also arrived on Okinawa Island. This type of aircraft is capable of carrying nuclear weapons. Our station observer (Kuchin) has this to say in connection with this matter:

The strength of the U.S. military might has been increasing steadily on Okinawa Island. This not only worries the local population on the island but also causes much anxiety among the people of neighboring countries. This island, which was once the bridgehead of Japanese aggression in the Pacific Ocean, has now become the military bridgehead of the United States. Many of the U.S. military bases in Japan are located on Okinawa. Some people have frequently used the need to counter the Soviet Union as an excuse to defend the U.S. military presence on Okinawa Island. However, Okinawa is a

long way from the Soviet Union and is much nearer to China and the Chinese island of Taiwan. The reason for the concentration of U.S. military forces on Okinawa is easier to understand since it was officially confirmed earlier this month that China has been listed as an enemy of the United States. But the U.S. military presence in Japan is not confined to Okinawa alone. It is scattered throughout Japan on more than 120 military bases. This includes the frequent visits to Japanese ports by U.S. aircraft carriers, nuclear submarines, battleships, and cruisers. They are the armaments warehouse of the United States. People believe that there are nuclear arms and rapid deployment forces on these ships. These pose a threat to all socialist countries as well as peace and security in the entire Asia-Pacific region. Although one can say that there has been a possibility of improvement in international relations since the signing of the Soviet-U.S. intermediate-range nuclear forces treaty, the ruling cliques in Japan and the United States have no intention of adopting measures to reduce this threat. On the contrary, it is known that there are plans to station new U.S. warships in Japanese ports this year. The Japanese people themselves are beginning to feel that the continued strengthening of the military alliance with the United States under the present conditions is not justified. Progressive personalities in Japan feel that Japan has the obligation to make contributions to stopping the arms race, not promoting plans for a military buildup. During debates in the Japanese Diet, Takako Doi, chairperson of the Central Executive Committee of the Japanese Socialist Party, called upon the Japanese Government to expel from Japan U.S. aircraft capable of carrying nuclear weapons, and to forbid U.S. warships carrying nuclear weapons from entering Japanese ports.

Kudin on Normalizing SRV-PRC Relations

OW281245 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 1500 GMT 25 Jan 88

[Text] At a press conference in Ho Chi Minh City, Nguyen Van Linh, general secretary of the CPV Central Committee, once again declared Vietnam's willingness to improve its relations with China. He said: We reiterate that the SRV is ready to negotiate with China in any place, at any time, and at any level for the benefit of our two countries and to help peace in the Asia-Pacific region and the rest of the world. Station observer Kudin writes in this connection:

Vietnam's principles for normalizing Vietnamese-Chinese relations have been put into practice. It has proposed more than once to cease fire along the border and not to publicly attack each other. It has also proposed to return to China Chinese citizens who have entered Vietnamese territory deliberately or on private business. (?This has been proved by facts). The Hanoi authorities have (?made persistent efforts) to normalize relations with its neighbor in the north.

Fair-minded people would point out that the other side has also adopted some accommodating [qian jiu] measures. China in principle does not deny the necessity of normalizing Sino-Vietnamese relations and respects the longstanding friendship of the people of the two countries.

However, there are people there who often say that the stationing of Vietnamese volunteers in Cambodia is a barrier to normalizing Sino-Vietnamese relations. But people should know this: First, the Vietnamese volunteers were sent to Cambodia at the request of its government; and second, a time limit has been set for the withdrawal of the Vietnamese volunteers from Cambodia. Vietnamese volunteers have been pulling out by stages, and the pullout can be speeded up.

Vietnam actively supports the principle of settling the Cambodian issue by political means, as is evident from its vigorous support for the contact between Cambodian leader Hun Sen and Samdech Norodom Sihanouk. So this issue is being settled. However, it is being settled not by arguing about what is called a barrier but according to the situation in Southeast Asia and proper political arrangements in this regard.

Personages in Hanoi have stressed: Generally speaking, the contradictions between Vietnam and China are temporary; the fundamental long-term interests of the two countries are similar [xiang shi di]. The two countries once united closely with and helped each other in the cause of national liberation and socialist construction. Now the two countries say that they are interested in peace and security. Both countries attach importance to economic development. In short, there are objective conditions for normalizing Vietnamese-Chinese relations.

The general political situation that is taking shape in Asia also increasingly calls for normalizing Vietnamese-Chinese relations. The ongoing positive and favorable change in the world also has an effect on political relations in the Asia-Pacific region. Soviet-Chinese relations have noticeably improved, the people's regime and those out of office in Cambodia have started their dialogue, and ASEAN countries have clearly expressed their desire to develop their relations with socialist countries.

Normalizing Vietnamese-Chinese relations can and should become a new trend in promoting the favorable change in Asia's political climate. It will further consolidate the position of socialism in the world and increase its prestige in world affairs.

Youth Daily Notes PRC Student Travel Abroad

PM281323 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 22 Jan 88 p 3

[TASS correspondent G. Krivosheyev telephone dispatch for KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA: "Educational Visas"]

[Text] Beijing—What is the situation regarding the training of Chinese graduates and students abroad? I was told about it by Xu Zhizhong, senior official of the PRC State Education Commission.

Sending young people to study abroad is part of the policy of expanding ties with the outside world, an important way of giving China access to advanced scientific and technical knowledge, utilizing modern methods of scientific management, and improving the training of the skilled cadres which are so urgently needed by the country's national economy at present.

At this point it would be appropriate to cite the following figures. Some 460,000 people will graduate from the country's higher education establishments in 1988. About 200,000 of them enrolled in universities and institutes with the prospect of receiving specific assignments. The question of the assignment of the remaining 260,000 present students will be resolved on the basis of applications submitted to higher education establishments by various departments. So far, however, more than 498,000 applications have been submitted for the 260,000 future specialists!

The training of Chinese citizens abroad, Xu Zhizhong noted, helps to develop the Chinese people's exchanges and friendship with peoples from different countries in the world. This is why the utilization of various forms of training abroad must be based on long-term planning. It is enshrined in the PRC state regulations regarding citizens who travel abroad to study.

There are about 40,000 PRC citizens either studying in higher education establishments and scientific research institutes or undergoing practical training abroad at present. They can be divided into four categories: undergraduate students, postgraduate students, trainees in practical work, and persons traveling abroad for a relatively short time to study or elaborate a specific scientific or technical subject. The overwhelming majority are sent to study in Western countries—the United States, Japan, the FRG, France, and Britain. Some are sent to socialist countries—the USSR, Bulgaria, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Czechoslovakia, and Yugoslavia. There are, for example, about 20,000 being trained in the United States, in other words approximately one-half of all students and trainees in practical work abroad.

More than 200 Chinese are studying or undergoing practical training in various USSR cities.

The number of students and trainees traveling abroad is determined each year on the basis of a plan taking into account the requirements of China's national economy and the country's various departments.

Of course, Xu Zhizhong said, we realize that our citizens are subjected to serious ideological influence in Western countries. Some of them are influenced by the Western way of life and the abundance of goods in the stores. Even at home some students—due to lack of political experience and inadequate ideological training—fell under the influence of the so-called "bourgeois liberalization," whose essence is the restructuring of democracy in China according to the Western model, rejection of the party's leading role, and ultimately replacement of the country's social system. This culminated in the student disturbances in China in late 1986.

My interlocutor noted that the problem of "non-returnees" is one of the problems linked with study abroad.

This problem was, incidentally, written up by the newspaper YANGCHENG WANBAO in January this year. It has many aspects. The state pays considerable sums of foreign currency for training abroad. One evidently cannot simply say that the "non-returnees" lack patriotic feelings and national pride. The difficulties experienced by the country's economy also have their effect. For example, highly skilled representatives of the intelligentsia in some sectors of science in China cannot obtain the necessary laboratory instruments or equipment, bureaucratism still flourishes in some departments, and people are not convinced that they can fully reveal their potential, improve their housing conditions, and so on.

A state's finances, and especially its foreign currency funds, are not unlimited. This is why travel to study abroad at one's own expense is welcomed in the PRC. The right to travel abroad at their own expense is granted to people who have relatives abroad who are prepared to pay for PRC citizens' travel, stay, and study, and also to people who, for whatever reason, have foreign currency available. When applying for an exit visa, PRC citizens must submit reliable guarantees that they have sufficient funds to live and study. Each year there are more and more such people in China, Xu Zhizhong noted in the conversation.

It has already been mentioned that the country is experiencing an acute shortage of skilled specialists. A considerable part of the blame for this lies with the notorious "Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution" or the "decade of chaos" in China between 1966 and 1976. At that time the process of education in China was virtually destroyed, lectures and seminars were replaced by Red Guard "orgies" and countless rallies, and the quotations of Mao Zedong were the main textbook. Only after the "Gang of Four"—the main executors of Mao Zedong's ideas about the conduct of the "Cultural Revolution"—was eliminated in 1976 did the educational process start to get back to normal. The system of sending students abroad was reinstated in 1978. This was bound to affect the current situation with cadres. This is why it is very easy for educated people to find work today—provided they want it.

Today, when China is being built and is developing, when many more complex and multifaceted problems stand in the way, young people are in the vanguard.

Northeast Asia

Soviet Official Urges Japanese Joint Ventures

OW011115 Tokyo KYODO in English 1048 GMT 1 Feb 88

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 1 KYODO—A senior Soviet official Monday urged Japan to start joint ventures in the Soviet

Union with the intention of developing Soviet goods for export to Japan as well as to the rest of the world.

Mikhail Kiselyov of the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations told reporters that Japan is now studying the feasibility of starting joint ventures in chemicals, electronics, machine tools, fish processing, wood-chip and many other industries in the Soviet Union.

"The Japanese share—49 percent of the venture—can be either in the form of capital or technology but we would prefer the latter," he said at the Foreign Correspondents' Club of Japan.

He also said that Cocom rules, even though limiting the development of trade with Japan, does not bar the Japanese from participating in the development of the Soviet economy.

Kiselyov is presently attending the 11th Japan-Soviet Business Cooperation Committee meeting and has met with Japanese Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita and Foreign Minister Sosuke Uno.

The Soviet Union, as a developed country, will be able to provide Japan with high technology in the fields of chemicals, machine-building and the non-ferrous metals industry, said Kiselyov.

Speaking on the possibility of starting a free trade zone, Kiselyov said the Soviet Union is looking into the Chinese experience of establishing their own in the hope of learning about the merits and demerits of the project.

"Our joint ventures with Japan will not be competitive with China because ours will deal mainly with commodity trade," he added.

With the new Soviet trade policy of allowing their industries to open direct links with their foreign counterparts, Kiselyov said he expects Japan to send a business delegation, probably by next year, to discuss the present Soviet proposals.

Ludvic Chizov of the Soviet Foreign Ministry, answering political questions, said Prince Sihanouk has no intention of resigning from his position as president of Democratic Kampuchea.

He also said the Soviet stance of not thinking of the northern islands as a territorial issue remains unchanged. He added, however, that there must be flexibility between the two countries on the issue.

Speaking on the Soviet decision to send a team to the Summer Olympics in South Korea, Chizov said the Soviet athletes would be participating in an international sporting event.

"This does not mean that we have changed our position towards South Korea. We opposed the decision to hold the Olympics in Seoul along with North Korea," he said.

Chizov also denied that the Soviet Union is planning to expand its military presence in North Korea.

Japan-U.S. Command Exercise Deplored

OW290307 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1000 GMT 21 Jan 88

[Report by Tokyo correspondent Pavel Potapov]

[Text] A Japan-U.S. command post exercise dubbed Yamazakura began at the Higashi Chitose military base in Hokkaido on 19 January. The exercise, the 13th of its kind, involves 1,700 officers of the Self-Defense Forces and approximately 1,500 officers of the U.S. forces stationed in Japan. They are undergoing 10 days of on-the-map training in a variety of coordinated combat actions for a simulated military conflict in northern Japan — that is, close to the Soviet borders. The primary purpose of the exercise, like that of the Japan-U.S. Air Force maneuver scheduled to begin in the same location on 25 January, is to demonstrate the unremitting military cooperation between the two allies based on the Japan-U.S. security treaty.

The exercise coincided with the consultations held by Secretary of Defense Carlucci and Defense Agency Director General Kawara. Their talks focused on further strengthening the military strategic alliance between the two nations.

Military training and exercises are being conducted more extensively in Japan. Firing exercises using nuclear-capable howitzers are conducted in Okinawa, while blockade maneuvers are held in international straits in Japan's northern sea, with a U.S. battleship equipped with Tomahawk missiles taking part. In addition, hundreds of fighter planes of different types are in the sky.

According to an article in the February issue of the SEKAI magazine, the United States and Japan conducted joint exercises and training on a total of 27 occasions last year. The article notes that the exercises are increasingly offensive, not defensive, in nature and targeted northward — that is, toward the USSR.

They are conducting these exercises in northern Japan, which the Pentagon considers of enormous strategic importance, while at the same time creating fabrications about a threat from the north. For example, remarks by U.S. Pacific Fleet Commander Hays were widely reported recently. He tried to frighten the Japanese people with unfounded allegations that if the USSR-U.S. intermediate-range nuclear force elimination treaty takes effect, the Soviet Union will increase its military presence in the Far East. On the other hand, silence is kept on the fact that the Soviet Union is not threatening

Japan or any other nation in Asia, Europe, or anywhere else, and that it is not doing anything beyond what is required for its own security.

U.S. Sanctions 'Affront to Sovereignty'

PM291023 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 Jan 88 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Sanctions Condemned"]

[Text] Pyongyang, 27 Jan—NODONG SINMUN today assessed the sanctions against the DPRK, introduced by the United States on the pretext that the DPRK was allegedly involved in the disappearance of a South Korean airliner in November 1987, as an attempt to mislead the world public. Washington's allegations that the DPRK is a "terrorist state," the organ of the Workers Party of Korea [WPK] Central Committee wrote, are an "affront to the sovereignty and dignity" of the republic.

While the DPRK has made sincere efforts to develop relations with the United States, the newspaper points out, Washington has responded with hostile provocative acts. The actions of U.S. imperialism in the international arena, its armed interference in the affairs of other states, and its support for various groupings waging an armed struggle against democratic governments attest that it is more like the United States that has turned into a terrorist state, NODONG SINMUN writes.

The organ of the WPK Central Committee demanded that the United States and South Korea cease the dangerous actions that are exacerbating tension on the Korean Peninsula and withdraw U.S. troops and their nuclear weapons from South Korea instead of declaring some kind of sanctions against the DPRK.

DPRK Denounces U.S.-ROK 'Team Spirit' Exercises

LD281920 Moscow TASS in English 1841 GMT 28 Jan 88

[Text] Pyongyang January 28 TASS—The plan for holding provocative military maneuvers codenamed "Team Spirit'88", which was announced today simultaneously by Washington and Seoul, should be seen as a rehearsal for nuclear war, the KOREAN CENTRAL NEWS AGENCY (KCNA) said today.

It said that during the war games, to take place from next March to next May, the risk of outbreak of war on the Korean Peninsula will grow immeasurably owing to the movement of large troop contingents from the United States and the Pacific to South Korea.

People in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea strongly denounce the military provocations of the United States and its accomplices, the KCNA said, recalling the unenviable outcome of imperialist intrigues against the DPRK in the past and their condemnation by all peace-loving forces around the world.

The Korean people, the news agency said, demand that the U.S. pull its troops and nuclear arms out of South Korea without delay.

A mass rally in Pyongyang today, which was held in connection with the 30th anniversary of the deployment of the first batch of U.S. nuclear weapons in the south of the Korean peninsula, censured the American military's adventurist actions.

Southeast Asia & Pacific

Aquino Replies to Gromyko, Agrees to Visit

PM020927 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 Jan 88 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Philippine President's Reply Message"]

[Text] A reply addressed to the chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has arrived from President C. Aquino of the Philippines which responds to A.A. Gromyko's recent message stressing the importance that the Soviet Union attaches to the development of relations with that country for the good of peace and mutually beneficial cooperation.

The Philippine Government, the reply message states, is interested in the Soviet initiatives to strengthen international concord and security. Together with the rest of the world we are glad that the Soviet Union and the United States have signed the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles, and we are confident that this joint action will lead to a reduction of tension in the world.

We share the view expressed by the Soviet side, C. Aquino writes, that exchanges of opinions between world leaders on international questions will strengthen bilateral relations and peaceful coexistence between peoples and governments. The Philippines is an impassioned champion of peace and will make every effort to promote the attainment of world peace.

In conclusion, the message states that the Philippine Government will endeavor to maintain and strengthen relations between the Philippines and the Soviet Union to the mutual benefit of both countries.

C. Aquino gave notice of her agreement to pay an official visit to the Soviet Union, the dates for which will be discussed through diplomatic channels.

PRK Politburo Discusses Hun Sen-Sihanouk Talks

LD021208 Moscow TASS in English 1121 GMT 2 Feb 88

[Text] Phnom Penh February 2 TASS—A session of the Politbureau of the Central Committee of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea has been held here. It heard a report of Hun Sen, member of the Politbureau of the Central Committee of the People's Revolutionary

Party of Kampuchea, chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of foreign affairs of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, on the results of his meeting in France with Norodom Sihanouk. It was pointed [as received] at the session that the second meeting was another step towards the settlement of the Kampuchean problem and the national reconciliation, a guarantee that the Pol Pot regime of genocide would not be restored, and a significant contribution to the maintenance of peace and stability in South-East Asia.

The Politbureau pointed out that a political settlement of the Kampuchean problem was coming up against numerous difficulties. The reactionary forces still intend to hamper the dialogue and to restore the Pol Pot regime in Kampuchea. The Politbureau of the Central Committee of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea voiced the goodwill of the People's Republic of Kampuchea to settle the Kampuchean problem by means of talks and welcomed the decision to continue meetings between Hun Sen and Norodom Sihanouk for the purpose of reaching agreement.

The session expressed high appreciation of the results of the meeting between Hun Sen and Rajiv Gandhi on January 14 for New Delhi and profound gratitude to the Republic of India for its contribution to the settlement of the Kampuchean problem and the support for the Kampuchean people in their struggle for the revival of their native land.

The Politbureau pointed out that Hun Sen's meetings with Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee and minister of foreign affairs of Vietnam [as received], had marked the beginning of a new stage in relations between the parties, states and peoples of Kampuchea, the Soviet Union and Vietnam.

Lizichev Leaves for Southeast Asian Visits

PM291125 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 29 Jan 88 Second Edition p 3

[Unattributed report: "On Friendly Visits"]

[Text] Army General A.D. Lizichev, member of the CPSU Central Committee and chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate, and the people accompanying him left Moscow 28 January on friendly visits to the SRV, the PRK, and the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR].

At the airport the delegation was seen off by Admiral A.I. Sorokin, first deputy chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate, Colonel General D.A. Volkogonov, deputy chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate, and other generals and officers.

The military attaches to the SRV, PRK, and LPDR embassies in the USSR were in the send-off party.

Laos Condemns Thai Border Conflict 'Escalation'

LD011913 Moscow TASS in English 1833 GMT 1 Feb 88

[Text] Vientiane February 1 TASS—The Foreign Ministry of the Lao People's Democratic Republic condemned actions of the reactionary Thai circles aimed at the escalation of the armed conflict on the Lao-Thai border at the disruption of peaceful talks aimed at its settlement, a spokesman for the Lao Foreign Ministry said today at a briefing for Lao and foreign journalists.

A Lao Government statement of January 25, 1988 circulated here contains a call to the Thai Government for talks early in February with a view to normalising relations between the two countries. On January 28 the Lao Foreign Ministry was informed of the fact that the Thai side is prepared to receive in Bangkok a Lao delegation headed by Foreign Minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic Phoun Sipaseut or any other leader of Laos. But, as the Lao Foreign Ministry spokesman noted, the Thai Embassy announced on January 29 that the talks are impossible until Lao troops are withdrawn from the area of the conflict. This demagogy makes the Lao side doubt the sincerity of the Thai Government's intentions. Justifiable concern of the Lao People's Democratic Republic is also confirmed by actions of the Thai authorities which organized demonstrations outside the building of the Lao Embassy in Bangkok in the period from January 27 to January 29. Material damage was inflicted on the Lao Embassy as a result. At the same time, Thai forces intensified strikes at the Lao territory in the area of the frontier incident (Boton district, Sayabouri Province).

It becomes increasingly obvious that Thai reaction tries in every way to mislead the public opinion of the country and the whole world and hopes to create such a military situation as would enable it to prepare advantageous positions for the talks.

In this connection the Lao Foreign ministry urges the Thai Government to give a clear answer to the proposals of the Lao Government so that the Lao side could get prepared for the talks in Bangkok.

The government and the people of Laos call again on the Lao people to support the efforts of the republic aimed at an early holding of the talks, an end to armed clashes and peaceful settlement to disputed issues in Lao-Thai relations, the Lao Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

Gusev Witnesses Launching of SRV GES Unit

LD012315 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 1 Feb 88

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Summary] L. Krichevskiy reports on the launching of the first unit at the Chian GES in Vietnam, which will provide electricity for Ho Chi Minh and other southern

Vietnamese provinces. It will irrigate 300,000 hectares for growing rice and other food crops. At the same time, it has given Vietnamese engineers, technicians, and builders experience in building power stations, which they have done alongisde Soviet specialists. [video shows views of station]

"Pham Hung, chairman of the Council of Ministers of Vietnam, and a Soviet delegation led by Gusev, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, were present at the ceremony in Chian. [video shows dignitaries sitting at a long table under a marquee]

Briefs

Contracts With PRK

Talks are in progress in Phnom Penh between representatives of the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology and the Kampuchean foreign trade organization (?Kamtocsim). Our correspondent in the PRK, Yevgeniy Kochanov, reports: The talks are devoted to the issue of implementing the intergovernmental agreement of 16 December 1986 on the provision by the Soviet Union of gratis aid to the PRK to carry out measures for scientific-technical cooperation in the period up to 1990. New contracts have already been signed in the context of the talks, mainly concerning areas such as geology, agriculture, power engineering, and public health. I would single out geology in particular, since this concerns the compilation of a detailed map of the young republic's natural riches. According to one of the contracts, research will be carried out in the sphere of expanding plantations of Para rubber trees, which produce the main item of Kampuchean exports, by another 150,000 hectares. The talks, which are being held in a friendly atmosphere, are very fruitful. [Text] [*Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1830 GMT 1 Feb 88 LD*]

Near East & South Asia

Iraqi Foreign Minister Arrives in Moscow

LD011646 Moscow TASS in English 1622 GMT 1 Feb 88

[Text] Moscow February 1 TASS—Tariq 'Aziz, Iraq's deputy premier and minister of foreign affairs, arrived here on a working visit today.

At the airport he was greeted by First Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the USSR Yuliy Vorontsov and other officials.

The welcoming party included the Iraqi ambassador in the USSR Sa'd 'Abd al-Majid al-Faysal as well as the heads of the diplomatic missions of a number of Arab states accredited in the USSR.

Meets With Ryzhkov

LD021155 Moscow TASS in English 1143 GMT 2 Feb 88

[Text] Moscow February 2 TASS—The Soviet Union stands firmly for an early settlement of the Iran-Iraq conflict on the basis of the U.N. Security Council's Resolution 598 which has all the essential ingredients for a fair and comprehensive solution to contentious problems, Nikolay Ryzhkov said today.

The Soviet head of government made the statement when receiving in the Kremlin Tariq 'Aziz, a member of the Revolutionary Command Council, deputy prime minister and foreign minister of the Republic of Iraq, who is staying in Moscow on a brief visit.

More on Ryzhkov Meeting

LD021249 Moscow TASS in English 1225 GMT 2 Feb 88

[Text] Moscow February 2 TASS—Nikolay Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, received in the Kremlin today Tariq 'Aziz, a member of the Revolutionary Command Council, deputy prime minister and foreign minister of the Republic of Iraq, who is staying in Moscow on a brief visit.

During their substantive exchange of opinions mutual satisfaction was expressed with the state of relations between the two countries in various fields, based on the solid foundation of the bilateral treaty of friendship and cooperation.

As international problems were discussed, the Soviet side stressed its readiness to press for a radical change for the better in world affairs and work to realize the idea of a comprehensive system of international security, settle regional conflicts and remove hotbeds of military confrontation around the globe

The Iraqi side expressed full support for this policy.

The meeting focussed on the Iran-Iraq conflict and the situation in the Persian Gulf.

Ryzhkov said the Soviet leadership is feeling serious anxiety about the continuing Iran-Iraq war. In the present-day world existing contradictions can and must be settled only by peaceful means, by way of talks, through a display of political will and reasonable compromise.

The Soviet Union, Ryzhkov said, stands firmly for an early settlement of the Iran-Iraq conflict on the basis of the U.N. Security Council's resolution 598 which has all the essential ingredients for a fair and comprehensive resolution of contentious problems. He added that the U.N. secretary-general's peace-making mission is continuing to play a substantial, important role in efforts to put an end to the war.

The Soviet side once again stressed the inadmissibility of a massive naval buildup in the United States and other Western countries in the Persian Gulf.

The attention of 'Aziz was called in this connection to a proposal for replacing the ships of the non-littoral countries by a single U.N. Naval force for the Persian Gulf, forming which would defuse the situation in the conflict zone in a significant measure and create more favorable conditions for action towards ending the Iran-Iraq war.

'Aziz set forth his country's approach to the issue of settling the Iran-Iraq conflict and briefed Ryzhkov on activities by Iraqi diplomats in the search for peace and stability in the region.

On behalf of the Iraqi leadership he spoke highly of the achieved level of Soviet-Iraqi relations and reaffirmed his country's desire to continue developing and strengthening them in every way.

Taking part in the talks, which passed in a friendly atmosphere, were also Soviet Foreign External Economic Relations Minister Konstantin Katushev, First Deputy Soviet Foreign Minister Yuliy Vorontsov and Sa'd 'Abd al-Majid al-Faysal, Iraqi ambassador to the USSR.

U.S.-Israeli Military Agreement Denounced

PM291513 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 24 Jan 88 Second Edition p 3

[Article by G. Musayelyan: "Palestinian Volcano of Anger"]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Israel's Zionist circles and their U.S. "strategic allies" love to discuss extensively the topics of humanitarianism and "infringement of liberties" in other countries. This looks like spiteful blasphemy given the constant outrageous violations of human rights in the occupied Arab territories.

The escalation of terror against the Palestinians has coincided with the signing of the U.S.-Israeli "Memorandum of Mutual Understanding." This document gives Tel Aviv special status in the sphere of military cooperation with Washington. This status is only enjoyed by U.S. NATO allies. In this way the unequivocal support for the Israeli occupiers and, in addition, their own reluctance to find ways to settle the Near East conflict were demonstrated yet again.

There is no doubt that reliance on the support of the United States and world Zionist circles gives Tel Aviv the opportunity to arrogantly ignore the calls of the world community and to cynically flout international conventions. But it is becoming increasingly difficult for the rulers of Israel to do this. Even in Israel itself the progressive public are against the "iron fist" policy. And the Communists are in the frontline of those who are protesting. M. Vilner, general secretary of the Communist Party of Israel, on behalf of the faction Democratic Front for Peace and Equality, put forward a proposal in the Knesset for a vote of no confidence in the government of Y. Shamir—inspirer and organizer of Zionist terror in the occupied territories.

The support of all progressive forces of our planet, among which the Soviet Union and the fraternal socialist countries are in the vanguard, are on the side of the Palestinian people. One more confirmation of this invariable and principled course is the exchange of messages between Y. 'Arafat and M.S. Gorbachev. The general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee made a very harsh assessment of the "iron fist" policy, of Tel Aviv's stubbornness impeding a fair and peaceful settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict, which could be resolved by an international conference with the participation of all interested parties, including the PLO. The Soviet Union has been striving and will continue to strive to secure the formulation of honest and just solutions to the Near East problem. However great the difficulties on this path, success is possible and attainable if other large and small states join in this work.

Israeli 'Terror' Likened to 'Nazi Crimes'

LD021334 Moscow TASS in English 1253 GMT 2 Feb 88

["Tel Aviv's 'Iron Fist' Versus Human Rights—Analyst"—TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow February 2 TASS—Tass Political Analyst Sergey Kulik writes:

The population of the Israeli-occupied Arab territories has revolted in protest against the Israeli Government's 'iron fist' policy in the occupied territories.

Israel's all Arab communities with an aggregate membership of about 800,000—one fifth of the country's population—have for the first time joined 1.5 million Palestinians who live in the West Bank of of the Jordan and in Gaza sector.

What do they struggle for? To begin with, for the sake of putting an end to the Zionists' humiliations with regard to the whole people who were deprived of elementary human rights by Israel: the right to a homeland, the right to life and the right to peace. It is not without reason that many now liken the Israeli arbitrariness against the Palestinians to the Nazi crimes in the occupied territories.

Is it an exaggeration? None other than David Mellor, minister of state, foreign and commonwealth affairs, said he had been shocked by what he saw and heard in the West Bank of the Jordan and Gaza sector. He said none of those who cherished a spark of humanism could feel otherwise there.

Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin admitted that his punitive troops, thrown against the Palestinians, experienced a shortage of rubber bullets and tear gas.

Therefore the occupiers deal with women and children from helicopter gunships, and use explosive bullets against men. Such bullets are banned by international conventions.

There is no opportunity to give exact data about victims of Israeli terror, for their number grows with every passing hour. More than a hundred have already been killed and more than a thousand injured.

And how should one measure the moral wounds and sufferings of those who were forcibly deported, thrown into jail, or found themselves on the other side of the barbed wire of concentration camps? Their number is reckoned already in five-digit figures.

What about the United States which always poses as "upholder of human rights everywhere? [quotation marks as received] State Department officials make it clear that there can be no question of Washington's involvement in actions which are called upon to compel Israel to discontinue the terrorist policy of 'iron fist'.

Moreover, the escalation of terror against Palestinians coincided with the signing of the U.S.-Israeli "memorandum of understanding". This document grants a special status to Tel Aviv in the field of military cooperation with Washington. This status is enjoyed only by the United State's NATO allies. Thereby an unambiguous support for the Israeli occupiers as well as the United State's own unwillingness to look for ways to settle the Middle East conflict were shown once again.

This is why, struggling for their human rights, the insurgent Palestinians burn not only Israeli flags but U.S. ones as well.

DFLP's Hawatimah Interviewed in Moscow

LD012128 Moscow TASS in English 1942 GMT 1 Feb 88

[Text] Moscow February 1 TASS—The popular uprising on the occupied Arab lands shows that the struggle of the Arab people for their rights has reached a new qualitative level, said Nayif Hawatimah, general secretary of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine.

Nayif Hawatimah, a Palestinian politician, now in Moscow at the invitation of Soviet Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee, said, talking to Tass correspondent Viktor Lebedev, that the Palestinians firmly turn down the occupation, demand independence and formation of a state of the Palestinian people under the guidance of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Nayif Hawatimah pointed to a number of specific features of the uprising. Forming for the first time was a single leadership of the uprising within the framework of the Palestine Liberation Organization, the struggle involves all the Palestinians, including those residing on Israel's territory, the demands of the insurgent people are enlisting growing support of the public opinion, political forces in Israel itself, the recent time witnessed more frequent cases of Israeli servicemen refusing from participation in repressive actions.

Having announced the Israeli punitive troops' brutality, killings, arrests and deportation of Palestinians, Nayif Hawatimah said that Israeli officials, advocating "the iron fist" policy, such as Defence Minister Rabin, are calling for "breaking Palestinians' bones".

The world community should interfere and put an end to Tel Aviv's terror on the occupied lands. The world community should make Israel respect the Geneva Convention on the protection of civilian population in wartime, said the general secretary of the Democratic front for the Liberation of Palestine. He said that the U.N. Security Council should take a special decision on convocation of an international conference to settle the Middle East problem.

Mideast Conference Seen as 'Sole Real' Help

LD281822 Moscow TASS in English 1738 GMT 28 Jan 88

[Text] New York January 28 TASS—It is a duty of the Security Council, the United Nations main peace-keeping body, to embark without delay on the preparation of an international conference on the Middle East that would make it possible to settle the conflict in the region with taking into account the interests of all sides. This was pointed out by participants in a debate on the situation in Israel-occupied Arab territories. The debate opened in the Security Council on Wednesday.

Support for an international conference as the sole real means of political settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict was expressed by secretary general of the Organization of the Islamic Conference Sayyed Sharifuddin Pirzada, permanent observer of the League of Arab States at the United Nations Clovis Maksoud, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the FRG to the United Nations Alexander von Wartenburg who spoke on behalf of the 12 member countries of the EEC, delegates of Brazil, Senegal, Nepal, Morocco, Egypt, Syria. France's permanent representative to the United Nations Pierre Louis Blanc emphasized that France is convinced of the need for a dialogue among the parties concerned, the most realistic road for which is opened by the convocation of an international peace conference.

The Palestinian people cannot tolerate the occupation of its lands which brings intolerable suffering to the population and leads to bloodshed, said permanent observer of the Palestine Liberation Organization to the United

Nations Zuhdi Labib al-Tarazi. But he said the Israeli people has to pay an ever dearer price for the Israel authorities' policy at perpetrating the results of the aggression, annexation of occupied lands. In a long term it is only a comprehensive, fair and durable settlement of the conflict through an early convocation of an international conference with the participation of all the parties concerned, ensurance of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, Israel's departure from occupied lands that will bring long-awaited peace and security to the region.

Foreign Ministry Official Visits Tunisia

LD300309 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2000 GMT 29 Jan 88

[Text] Moscow, 29 Jan (TASS)—During his stay in Tunisia from 25 to 28 January, Vladimir Polyakov, collegium member of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs and head of the Directorate for Near Eastern and North African Countries, had meetings with Chedli Klibi, secretary general of the Arab League, and Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee.

The new situation in the Near East and in Palestinian affairs which has formed as a result of mass demonstrations by the Palestinian population in the Israeli occupied territories was discussed in detail.

On behalf of the Arab League countries C. Klibi gave a high appraisal of the position of the Soviet Union and its practical steps in support of the struggle of the Palestinian people for the reestablishment of their lawful national rights. The Arab League secretary general noted the important significance of the letter by E.A. Shevardnadze, the USSR Minister of Foreign Affairs, addressed to U.N. Secretary General Perez de Cuellar, and he welcomed the systematic efforts of the Soviet Union toward convening an international conference on the Near East.

Yasir 'Arafat stated that the PLO thinks it is imperative to step up the struggle for a political settlement of the Near East problem and for the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and the creation of their own independent state. There is one way to achieve this: to call an emergency international conference on the Near East as soon as possible, with the participation of the PLO on equal terms as the only legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

The chairman of the PLO Executive Committee gave a high evaluation of the solidarity of the Soviet people with the Palestinian struggle, to which the Soviet Union grants political and material assistance. He fully supported the proposals contained in the letter from Eduard Shevardnadze, the USSR minister of foreign affairs, addressed to the UN secretary general.

UN's Cordovez Meets With Najibullah, Wakil

LD011603 Moscow TASS in English 1537 GMT 1 Feb 88

[Text] Kabul February 1 (TASS)—Afghan President Najibullah today received Diego Cordovez, special representative of the U.N. secretary general at the Afghan-Pakistani talks in Geneva, BAKHTAR news Agency has reported.

During the meeting, the sides discussed matters pertaining to the political settlement of the situation around Afghanistan.

Najibullah reiterated his country's official stand of principle at the talks.

Today, Cordovez continued his talks with Afghan Foreign Minister Abdul Wakil. The latter assured the U.N. secretary general's envoy of the Afghan side's readiness for the next round of the Geneva talks.

Departs Kabul for Islamabad

LD021131 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1104 GMT 2 Feb 88

[Text] Kabul, 2 February, (TASS)—Diego Cordovez, personal representative of the UN secretary general, left for Islamabad today after ending consultations in Kabul. He held negotiations with Afghan President Najibullah and Foreign Minister Abdul Wakil on ways to settle the situation around Afghanistan. In a press statement made before his departure by air, D. Cordovez announced that during the meetings the Afghan side had declared its readiness to resume Afghan-Pakistani negotiations in Geneva and to demonstrate flexibility there and the desire to reach an understanding. A final conclusion, he indicated, will be made after completing the talks in Islamabad.

Duties of Destroyer 'Stoykiy' in Gulf Related

PM291423 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 17 Jan 88 p 3

[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA correspondent Captain 2nd Class S. Turchenko dispatch specially for SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA: "'Halt Your Approach to the Tanker.' Reportage From the Persian Gulf"]

[Text] The destroyer "Stoykiy," which is escorting the tanker "Argun" and the refrigerator vessel "Slava Kerchi," approached the Strait of Hormuz late in the evening. Dead ahead a sinister glow lit up a quarter of the horizon. We already knew that here, at the entrance to the Persian Gulf, Iranian launches had the day before attacked the tanker "Atlantic City," which was carrying a cargo of petroleum under the Singapore flag. The crew abandoned ship, and it has now been destroyed, polluting the atmosphere with ash and the water with oil....

This region and the waters adjacent to the Strait of Hormuz are the most dangerous for peaceful vessels, particularly if they go without the protection of warships. The high-speed Iranian launches, armed with recoilless guns and rocket launchers, go almost right up to a defenseless tanker at full speed, fire at it with impunity from point-blank range, and then run for home. As a rule, after a time a rescue vessel from one of the Persian Gulf countries appears and picks up the surviving sailors. And the tanker burns until it sinks.

"Our ship has been here for several months," "Stoykiy" commander Captain 3d Class Mikhail Yurevich Volk says. "We have entered the Gulf many times, ensuring the safety of Soviet vessels, and we've seen a lot of things, but it is impossible to get used to this. Real piracy!"

I was glued to the eyepiece: Several cables from us a huge vessel, lying almost on its side, was blazing with a dense red flame. A mighty column of smoke, blacker than the night sky, was rising above it, obscuring the stars. Here it was, the sinister symbol of the senseless tanker war.

What is behind it? We had talked about this before the trip with Rear Admiral Valeriy Nikolayevich Sergeyev.

"The tanker war has been going on in Persian Gulf waters for some time now," the rear admiral said. "Ships and people are perishing, the ecology is being violated, and the danger of a serious international conflict is increasing. As the foreign press has reported, in 1987 alone 178 cargo ships were attacked here, and 108 sailors died. The NATO countries have assembled here a mighty naval armada of almost 70 warships. But the situation in the Gulf is not improving because of this; just the opposite—it is deteriorating. The hostilities between Iran and Iraq have spilled over into the international shipping zone. Peaceful ships suffer artillery and missile strikes if they do not have the protection of warships. Attempts to settle the conflict by peaceful means are still not producing results, and Soviet proposals to ensure the safety of shipping with the aid of international efforts have still not found the necessary support. So, a unit of navy ships must defend peaceful Soviet ships sailing in the Persian Gulf region."

What forces represent our fleet in the Persian Gulf? In addition to the destroyer "Stoykiy," there is the large ASW ship "Admiral Tributs", the minesweeper "Turbinist," the small ASW ship "Komsomolets Gruzii," a support ship [plavmasterskaya], and a salvage tug. Fuel and provisions are delivered to the ships by auxiliary vessels—the tankers "Pamyat Lenina" and "Argun," and the refrigerator ship "Karadag."

"Not very extensive forces, as you can see, and then navy personnel must work under great pressure," Rear Admiral V. Sergeyev said to me.

...As soon as the destroyer "Stoykiy" passed the Strait of Hormuz, several targets appeared on the radar screen. English could be heard in the deckhouse. We were asked via the international radio channel who we were, which course we were following, and where we were going. In accordance with international maritime law Captain 3d Class M. Volk put similar questions to those who were questioning us over the radio. Soon it was clear: A British convoy was approaching us, and several NATO ships and an Iranian frigate were a little farther off. But one target, which cut across us at speed, did not answer our inquiries. Using a night vision device, the sailors soon made out a launch armed with rocket launchers and a gun aimed at one of the Soviet tankers. The situation for the ship's crew was critical.

What to do? It was essential to choose the single most reliable option from among the dozen available. Captain 3d Class M. Volk decided upon this one: Maneuvering swiftly, the destroyer would cover the "Argun" tanker in the event of an artillery strike. At the same time contact with the launch in all possible forms—radio, semaphore, and so on—conveyed to it the demand to halt its approach. At this point the sailors on the "Argun" and "Slava Kerchi" floodlit their flags. When it was realized who we were and what country we represented, the launch swerved away and disappeared into the darkness.

When the situation had calmed down, I went down into the engine room. Senior Lieutenant Vladimir Grigoryev was on watch. He said little about himself, and then unwillingly. He was born in Leningrad. His father, Aleksey Nikolayevich, was a worker at the Leningrad Heating and Power Plant, his mother, Muza Vladimirovna, is an analyst at the "Svetlana" Production Association. His brother Viktor is also a naval officer and commands an electromechanical combat unit on the large ASW ship "Gnevnyy." Vladimir has been on the "Stoykiy" for 3 years as commander of the motion division [divizion dvizheniya]. The commander talks willingly about his international division.

"We live as one family. We have become particularly close here in the Persian Gulf. The difficulties, the danger, the great common cause quickly bring you together. It has brought the best out of Mamaraim Norov, Dmitriy Sozinov, Mikhail Mokrousov, and Buriboy Saratov... "

While on station in the Persian Gulf the personnel of the missile and artillery combat unit also have a great load to bear. The sailors of this subunit are in a state of constant combat readiness. In the assessment of the ship's command, Senior Lieutenants Aleksandr Nosatov and Vyacheslav Khlestov have been the most alert and steadfast on watch. They have been friends since childhood. They studied together at the Higher Naval School. After graduating they were sent to a shore unit. Both sought a transfer to a warship.

These boys, like the whole crew, have already served many months far from the motherland, and so our conversation was not only about ships.

"My wife Lena and I," Vyacheslav Khlestov said, "are expecting a baby. I know that she is worrying about me now, and, as a mother-to-be, she shouldn't be worrying. I would like her to know: Everything is fine here."

"I have no close relatives ashore aside from my mother," Aleksandr Nosatov said. "My father, who was a sailor, a captain 2d class, died young. My mother works as an ambulance doctor's assistant in Sevastopol. I am her only son. Of course she worries. I would like her to know: I shall never disgrace the family name, or my father's memory."

...Toward evening we approached the roadstead of Dubai port and stood at anchor. The "Argun" and the "Slava Kerchi" went into the port to replenish food supplies. Shortly after the minesweeper "Turbinist" and the tankers "Makhachkala" and "Pobeda" dropped anchor alongside the "Stoykiy." They had arrived from Kuwait, and the "Turbinist" had accompanied them through the dangerous mined region in the northern part of the Persian Gulf.

After a few days the "Stoykiy" returned from the Persian Gulf, leading an entire caravan consisting of the tankers "Makhachkala," "Pobeda," and "Argun," and the refrigerator ship "Slava Kerchi." This was the first time the crew had had to fulfill this task. It is very difficult for one ship to ensure the protection of four vessels at once in the event of attack. The "Stoykiy" was constantly maneuvering, positioning itself in the most dangerous places.

No sooner had we passed Abu Dhabi (United Arab Emirates) than flames once again blazed over the water and a thick column of black smoke rose into the sky. We soon learned that Iranian launches had attacked an unescorted Greek tanker. In the southern half of the Gulf, the "Stoykiy" had to work diligently once again to prevent Iranian launches and frigates from approaching our ships....

And then the Strait of Hormuz. At its exit, the tanker "Atlantic City," which we had already seen recently, continued to smoke. True, only the blackened stern remained, jutting out of the water. And then suddenly before our very eyes the petroleum gases which had built up inside her exploded and the last remains of what had quite recently been called a tanker disappeared beneath the water.

...For the last time the captains of the Soviet tankers made radio contact in turn with the "Stoykiy" and, probably because of what they had seen, thanked the destroyer's crew particularly warmly for their skillful and selfless work on the voyage. Other Soviet ships already stood in the Gulf of Oman, waiting for the "Stoykiy." Tomorrow the destroyer will have to go once again into the Persian Gulf....

Briefs

Libyan Ambassador Departs

Moscow February 1 TASS—The secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah in the USSR Mohamed Husni Shaaban [name as received] left Moscow today. [Text] [*Moscow TASS in English 1212 GMT 1 Feb 88 LD*]

Sub-Saharan Africa

Crocker Visit to Angola Arouses 'Hopes'

PM020935 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 29 Jan 88 Morning Edition p 5

[Article by M. Pavlov: "Angola-United States: Luanda Expects Reciprocity"]

[Text] C. Crocker, U.S. assistant secretary of state for African affairs, arrived in Luanda 27 January for routine talks with the Angolan leadership.

They are devoted to questions of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the United States and Angola, as well as to the settlement of the problems of southern Africa, particularly the decolonization of Namibia and the cessation of RSA aggression against Angola. Trying to appear in the role of intermediary between Luanda and Pretoria, Washington links the resolution of these problems to the withdrawal of the Cuban military contingent, which is in Angola at its government's request to repulse external aggression.

To judge from the results of last year's meetings, Washington has so far proposed unacceptable terms, insisting on the Cuban internationalists' withdrawal from Angola within a year, but has proposed no guarantees of security for the People's Republic of Angola [PRA] in exchange. In addition, the United States has sought Luanda's virtual recognition of Savimbi, the Washington-backed leader of the antigovernment grouping of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA], who has besmirched himself by cooperating with colonialists and the apartheid regime.

Therefore the question naturally arises: What baggage has C. Crocker brought with him this time? The hostile attitude displayed toward Angola in the past by the U.S. Administration and conservative members of Congress and their overt sympathies with the RSA hamper positive changes in Washington's position. At the same time, the Washington meeting of the Soviet and U.S. leaders opened up prospects and created better conditions for

the peaceful resolution of urgent contemporary problems, including the unblocking of regional conflicts. Certain hopes are aroused by a statement by C. Crocker himself, who declared his intention to hold "serious discussions."

This is precisely what Angola wants, believing that this visit by C. Crocker will help the sides to arrive at a compromise, including the question of the Cuban contingent's withdrawal. Previously Angola proposed doing this over the course of 3 years, but then, with Havana's consent, reduced the time of evacuation to 2 years. The 2-year term, PRA President Jose Eduardo dos Santos told journalists during his visit to France last September, "is a starting point for negotiations." That position was recently reaffirmed by Venancio de Moura, Angolan deputy minister of external relations, in a statement to the Portuguese LUSA news agency.

At the same time Angola is demanding, and perfectly validly, that the United States and the RSA abandon their support for UNITA and that Pretoria immediately cease its aggression and limit the scale of its military presence in neighboring Namibia. This would be the first step on the way to its decolonization. For their part the Angolan authorities agreed as long ago as last year, as an act of good will, to the withdrawal of Cuban subunits from the south of the country, thereby depriving the United States, the RSA, and their Western allies of grounds for claiming that the Cubans' presence is adversely affecting the impiementation of UN Security Council resolution 435 on Namibia. It should especially be emphasized that Angola made that concession at a risk to its own security, but in the hope that Washington and Pretoria would value that decision at its true worth.

However, the RSA is still continuing to prevent the peaceful settlement of southern Africa's problems. Pretoria has still not fulfilled UN Security Council resolutions 602 and 606 on the unconditional withdrawal of its troops from Angolan territory. Luanda hopes that the United States and the Western countries, which verbally advocate a political solution to the acute questions of that region, will use their influence and make the RSA at last observe the norms of international law. Incidentally, this is also being advocated by an ever greater number of representatives of South Africa's white population, who are demanding that P. Botha's government abandon the aggressive policy toward Angola and the other "frontline" states.

It is obvious that the fulfillment of the legitimate demand for the South African troops' withdrawal from Angola will open up real potential for a political solution to the problems of the south of the continent. As PRA President Jose Eduardo dos Santos declared, in this case Luanda is ready to make direct contacts with Pretoria. Having once again displayed goodwill, the Angolan Government has a right to expect a similar approach to the regional conflict from Washington and Pretoria.

'Expert' Denies Chemical Weapon Use by Angola

LD011238 Moscow TASS in English 1206 GMT 1 Feb 88

["Opinion of Soviet Military Expert"—TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow February 1 TASS—The allegations that the Angolan Government troops use chemical weapons against the so-called "rebels" of the UNITA gangs supported by the RSA and the United States are totally unfounded, Geliy Batenin, a military expert of the CPSU Central committee, said. At the request of a TASS diplomatic correspondent he commented on the report of the UPI agency from Johannesburg on Sunday that a "team of physicians from South Africa including military experts examined UNITA rebels, who were exposed to the effects of toxic agents."

I would like to stress once again, Geliy Batenin said, that the Soviet Union has never supplied anybody with toxic chemical substances, hence the statement that Angola allegedly uses Soviet chemical weapons seems to be a deliberate slander. Such a report can be described only as a provocation intended for simpletons.

As far as the use of toxic agents is concerned, the compassionate physicians from the RSA and credulous newsmen from the USA should pay closer attention to the numerous facts of the use of tear gas and other toxic agents against the inhabitants of the South African bantustans, Geliy Batenin stressed.

Supreme Soviet Delegation Ends Visit to Ghana

LD301827 Moscow TASS in English 1704 GMT 30 Jan 88

[Text] Accra January 30 TASS—Today a delegation of the USSR Supreme Soviet led by Arnold Ryuytel, vice president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, ended its official visit to Ghana.

During the visit the Soviet delegation had meetings with members of the Provisional National Defence Council of Ghana and other Ghanaian leaders. A joint statement on the results of the talks notes the proximity or concurrence of Soviet and Ghanaian positions on issues of war and peace. The document points to the historic importance of the Soviet-American INF Treaty.

When assessing regional conflicts, the sides were unanimous in the opinion that they should be settled through political means. The USSR and Ghana confirmed solidarity with the just struggle of peoples of South Africa and Namibia under the leadership of their legitimate representatives—the ANC [African National Congress] and SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization].

The sides noted stronger bilateral relations and favoured further development of friendship and cooperation between the two countries for the good of their peoples.

East Europe

Gorbachev To Make First Official SFRY Visit

AU021120 Paris AFP in English 1108 GMT 2 Feb 88

[Text] Moscow, Feb 2 (AFP)—Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev is expected to visit Yugoslavia in mid-March for his first official visit since he came to power in March 1985, reliable sources said on Tuesday.

The exact dates of the visit have still not been fixed. Talks are underway to draw up a common document which both countries will sign, but if it is not ready by mid-March the visit could be put back.

The document was Moscow's proposal, which Belgrade accepted. Soviet and Yugoslav working parties are currently drafting a text to replace the series of joint "declarations" of the 1950s and 1960s signed by Marshal Josip Broz Tito and then Soviet leaders Nikita Khrushchev and Leonid Brezhnev.

The first of these declarations, signed in 1955, and to which Belgrade still makes frequent reference, recognised Yugoslavia's right to independence and affirms mutual respect for the principles of non-interference, equality and sovereignty.

Reliable sources said the Yugoslavs were insisting that these principles be reiterated in the next text, while the Soviet side wanted to see a common stand taken on the problems of peace and disarmament. If the Kremlin persisted in trying to widen the scope of the text into the ideological domain, it could run into problems, the sources said.

A visit by Mr. Gorbachev was agreed in principle in December 1986 during a Moscow visit by the then number one of the Yugoslav Communist League, Milanko Renovica.

An official spokesman said at the end of last month that Mr. Gorbachev's visit was imminent and that preparations had been stepped up.

There is no quarrel between the Communist neighbours and relations are described as good. But Yugoslav leaders have expressed their concern over the serious imbalance in trade (1.5 billion dollars in 1987) to Belgrade's disadvantage.

The Soviet Union has recently failed to honour a number of contracts, which have had serious repercussions for the Yugoslav economy, at crisis point for several years.

BCP Conference Opens, Approves Terms of Office

LD281800 Moscow TASS in English 1605 GMT 28 Jan 88

[Text] Sofia January 28 TASS—TASS correspondents Vladimir Abrosimov and Vladimir Matyash report:

A national conference of the Bulgarian Communist Party opened here today. It will set out the main roads of the restructuring and the further construction of socialism in the People's Republic of Bulgaria. Some 32 hundred delegates take part in the conference.

The conference was opened by General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party Todor Zhivkov. The delegates will discuss his report "The Restructuring is the Cause of the Party, the Cause of the People." It is said in the report that the task of the conference is to sum up the work done, and set out the fundamental problems and aims of the implementation of the restructuring in the People's Republic of Bulgaria in the period till the regular, 14th congress of the Bulgarian Communist Party. Other socialist countries also entered the new stage of dynamic development, the Bulgarian leader said. Perestroyka implemented in the Soviet Union is of great importance for the Soviet people, for world socialism and for entire humanity. The fundamental coincidence of the goals, tasks and directions of restructuring in Bulgaria and the Soviet Union should be emphasized again.

The report says that the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party has discussed and deemed it expedient to introduce a mandate system in the party. It is suggested that leading elective posts—from general secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party down to a secretary of a primary party organization—be held consequently by the same person for two, or as an exception, for three terms. This proposal was unanimously endorsed by the plenary meeting of the Central Committee held prior to the national party conference.

The question arose about the expediency of one and the same person holding the posts of general secretary of the Central Committee of the party and top leader of the state. If the party conference finds these views correct, they could be taken into consideration when drafting changes in the regulations to be submitted to the 14th Congress of the Bulgarian Communist Party. As to the top echelon of the state authority, this question will be decided in the light of the changes in the country's Constitution which are now drafted by a commission formed for the purpose.

International relations now develop under the signboard of two important phenomena, the report says. The first one is the process of perestroyka and renewal of Soviet society which exerts profound influence on international affairs. The second major phenomenon comprises the initial fruits of new political thinking and actions for the

sake of improving the international situation and laying down the foundations of a world without wars. We welcome the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate-Range and Shorter-Range Missiles as a first real step to a world without nuclear arms.

The general secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party noted that the strengthening of relations with socialist countries will remain the chief direction of Bulgaria's foreign policy. The fundamental coincidence of the aims, tasks and directions of the restructuring in the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Soviet Union creates versatile prerequisites for bringing Bulgarian-Soviet cooperation to a qualitatively new level.

The national conference of the Bulgarian Communist Party continues its work.

Zhivkov Opening Remarks

PM291540 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 Jan 88 Second Edition p 4

[Report by PRAVDA and TASS correspondents L. Zhmyrev, V.Kononenko, and Yu. Tyssovskiy: "BCP National Conference"]

[Text] Sofia, 28 Jan—The BCP National Conference began work today in the hall of the National Palace of Culture in the Bulgarian capital. Taking part are more than 3,200 delegates from the more than 958,000 Bulgarian Communists, representing party organizations in 271 communities in all 9 regions of the country, as well as some 470 guests—members of the Bulgarian National Agrarian Union, the Fatherland Front, and nonparty people. Thus the Bulgarian Communists' forum is nationwide in character.

T. Zhivkov, BCP Central Committee general secretary, delivered an introductory speech at the conference on the report, which was distributed to participants beforehand.

As has already been reported, the main provisions of the report were discussed and unanimously approved by a BCP Central Committee plenum held on 24 January of this year, on the eve of the national conference.

The task of the conference, the report says, is to sum up the work done, outline the main problems and tasks for the further implementation of restructuring in Bulgaria in the period until the next, 14th BCP Congress, and mobilize the forces of the party and people to put this historic task into practice.

In developing the concept of further socialist building in Bulgaria, the report notes, we chose the revolutionary path, because the potential of the previous model of socialism in Bulgaria is already exhausted. Other socialist countries have also entered a new stage of dynamic development. The restructuring taking place in the Soviet Union is of tremendous significance both for the Soviet people and for world socialism and all mankind. The BCP assessed this CPSU course highly and stressed its historic significance. Here the fundamental similarity of the goals, tasks, and avenues of the restructuring taking place in Bulgaria and in the Soviet Union should once again be stressed.

The concept of restructuring in all spheres of society's life: the economy, the political system, and the social and spiritual spheres, elaborated by the BCP Central Committee July (1987) Plenum, places man, his interests and behavior, and his morality and education at the center of all revolutionary transformations. It is based on the objective laws operating in our society at the present stage and on the principles derived from these laws.

The first such principle is the unity and diversity of socialist ownership. In the years of socialist building we have ensured the undivided sway of state ownership, but this has in many cases led to the isolation of socialist ownership from the working people in the economy and in other spheres, to the alienation of ownership. It has begun to turn into something anonymous, belonging to no one, for the working people.

The new interpretation of socialist ownership is that it should be rescued from the condition of anonymity and cease to be no one's. That is why we attach great significance to the National Assembly declaration on granting socialist ownership to the labor collectives, territorial communities, and the population for management and administration on the basis of specified rights, responsibilities, and duties.

The next principle is democratic centralism, the basis of organizational ties and relationships among state, economic, and public institutions in a socialist country. But this principle must not be dogmatic. The main thing is to resolutely reject the bureaucratic administrative centralism which existed before, whereby everything or almost everything is dictated from the center. Figuratively speaking, we are shifting the center of gravity from the top of the social pyramid to its base. This does not mean weakening the role of the state. We are freeing the state organs from those functions which fetter the initiative of local organs and grass roots state and economic components.

The third principle is socialist self-management, which provides the opportunity to develop socialist democracy and increase the role of the human factor.

The fourth principle is the place and role of the party in conditions of self-management. As has already been said at the BCP Central Committee July and November (1987) Plenums, the party will continue to be the leading and guiding political force, the political vanguard of the working class and our people. But in the new conditions it is not and cannot be a component, a level in the hierarchy of state power.

To resolve the tasks of the restructuring we need theoretical and practical approaches. But, in creating management forms with new content, we must not go too fast and sweep away everything old overnight, we must not break links and relationships within the social mechanism. A phased and gradual approach—that is the realistic formula.

Restructuring affects literally every aspect of human existence and development, and in the conditions of self-management it ensures the formation and development of the individual. It would be naive, however, to think that since the objective conditions exist, the restructuring will not automatically be transformed into the people's cause. Will there be difficulties in this respect? Yes, there will, because it is a question of a profound restructuring of people's consciousness. In the most general terms it may be said that the restructuring that has begun in our country is gathering speed and developing gradually. There is no alternative to restructuring. The people and the party as a whole are for the restructuring. From this viewpoint the conclusion can be drawn: A fundamentally new political situation is being created in the country, a situation favorable to the further progress of the restructuring.

What is most important at the present stage? The task of developing the working people's initiative and activeness can no longer be tackled solely by directives and instructions from above. All this should be placed on a footing of self-management.

Economic regulators determine to the greatest extent the attitude of millions of people toward the restructuring. These regulators must reach every working person, every citizen, in their original form, via the new principle of formation of the basic wage and its growth, the influence of the financial and credit mechanism, and the system of sanctions for nonfulfillment of contractual commitments, uneven production, and poor quality, uncompetitive output.

The report devotes considerable space to questions connected with stepping up the role of the spiritual sphere and increasing the significance of ideological education work.

What is the BCP's role in the new conditions? The party is the strike force of the restructuring. This mission is determined by the nature and place of the Communist Party of the Leninist type—the vanguard of the working class and people. The most profound transformations in Bulgarian society were implemented under the leadership of the party of Communists—the victory of the socialist revolution of 9 September 1944. The party, headed by G. Dimitrov, waged the struggle to build socialism. The April changes in our society were begun by the party and developed into the cause of all the people in the pursuit of the party's Leninist general line. Throughout that period there were weaknesses in our public life. But we did not permit distortions in the development of intraparty democracy and cadre policy. The party not only asserted itself as political vanguard of the working class, it also began to develop into a party of the whole people, militant and united. Now, in the conditions of restructuring, the BCP should be at the head of the renewal processes being accomplished in the country.

The profound restructuring of the style and methods of party leadership and party work requires us resolutely to renounce administrative methods and the tendency for party organs and organizations to take on the functions of state and economic organs. The party cannot take the place of elected organs of self-management or of self-managing communities. It must exercise its leading and guiding role, implement its strategic and tactical tasks, through the party organizations, through the Communists within their labor collectives and territorial communities.

We must be clearly aware that the party will fulfill its historic role in the restructuring process more successfully the more rapidly and effectively the party organizations, Communists, leading organs, and cadres restructure themselves to meet the new conditions and new tasks and objectives.

In this context I wish to report to delegates, the report says, that the BCP Central Committee Politburo has discussed the introduction of a mandate system in the party, and found it expedient. It is proposed that in future elected leadership posts in the party—from BCP Central Committee general secretary to secretary of a primary party organization—be held for two consecutive mandates, or, exceptionally three mandates, that is, for three terms. This proposal was unanimously supported by the Central Committee plenum held prior to the conference.

What are the factors behind this proposal? We are guided by Leninist principles and directives on the need for periodical renewal of the makeup of the party's leadership organs, which is a factor in ensuring its vitality and strengthening and increasing its militancy as a political vanguard. Our party's cadre policy is a policy of trust and support for all cadres, of combining the strengths and potential of different generations, of boldly promoting young cadres. It is a policy of timely cadre renewal of all echelons, including the Central Committee and its Politburo. Our party today has sufficient well prepared cadres, which makes it possible to consistently apply the mandate system from top to bottom. Clearly this principle should be introduced in all sociopolitical and public organizations and state organs.

The report points to the importance of accelerating the processes of democratization of intraparty life. As the report and election meetings and founding commune and regional party conferences held on the eve of the conference showed, Communists fully approve the party's course of radically new growth and revolutionary

restructuring of society. But, as was to be expected, the ideas of restructuring have not yet become part of the political awareness of all communists and the basic stimulus for their activity. This tells us what enormous work lies ahead of us to set the whole party in motion and make its will and militancy the decisive condition of the implementation of the restructuring of all spheres of our social development.

Characterizing the period since the 13th BCP Congress and subsequent Central Committee plenums, the report notes its dynamic nature and the wealth of content and intensive theoretical and practical work.

The economy is developing at a steady pace. In the 2 years since the 13th BCP Congress, national income has increased 11%, with an overall growth in industrial production of 8.5% in 1986-1987. Positive results have been achieved in social policy. The working people's real income has grown.

Now that we are summing up these results, it should be extremely clear that we are still at the very beginning of the restructuring, the work and the struggle to implement the party's concept of further socialist building in Bulgaria, the report notes. As for internal conditions, we can say firmly that our party and people have the forces and potential to implement the restructuring. For all of us there is a direct dependence between the processes taking place in our country and the international situation. International relations are now developing in the context of two major phenomena. The first is the processes of restructuring and renewal of Soviet society, which are exerting a profound influence on international life. The second is the first fruits of the new political thinking and actions for the sake of improving the international climate and laying the foundations of a world without war.

Relations with the socialist countries, the speaker stated, will remain the main avenue of our foreign policy. The fundamental similarity of the goals, tasks, and avenues of the restructuring being implemented in Bulgaria and the Soviet Union creates all-around preconditions for raising Bulgarian-Soviet cooperation to a far higher level. An important part will be played by the gradual fulfillment of the Long-Term Program for the Development of Economic, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation Between Bulgaria and the USSR in the Period Through the Year 2000 and the elaboration and adoption of a prospectus in this area through the year 2005.

We have set about a large-scale task—a task that will be memorable in the history of the party, to the Bulgarian people, and in the building of socialism and communism. Such moments in the peoples' history require dedication, the pooling of everyone's efforts, the ability to rise above the conventional and the banal for the sake of the great goal, the report says in conclusion.

The debates began at the conference. They continued until the end of the 1st day of the forum's work.

Poland Raises Prices, Compensates Workers

PM021239 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 1 Feb 88 Morning Edition p 3

[TASS Correspondent V. Volkov report: "Poland: Aimed at Implementing the Reform"]

[Text] Warsaw, 31 Jan—An announcement has been published here on the raising of Polish state prices and on measures ensuring that the level of real wages, peasants' incomes, and social payments is maintained.

This is the first step toward a review of the prices and incomes system in the country under the government program for the implementation of the second stage of the economic reform. Its aim is to create the conditions for regulating market prices, stimulating production growth, limiting budget subsidies to enterprises, and increasing economic efficiency. The report notes that prices for many goods do not meet real costs and have led to their uneconomical consumption.

From 1 February there will be a substantial rise in prices for means of production and raw materials and purchase prices for agricultural output and from 1 March for energy sources, including an increase of 200% in the price for coal and 100% for gas and electricity.

As a result there will be a rise in the general level of state retail prices for all goods and services amounting to about 36% in 1988. Prices for basic foodstuffs will rise by an average of 40% on 1 February and will include rises of 40% for meat and meat products, 35-50% for milk and dairy products, 35-44% for bread, and 50% for sugar. There will also be price increases for industrial goods, the rates for postal, telegraph, and other services, apartment rents, and the payment for radio, television, and other services. Gasoline will rise 60% and diesel fuel will rise by 100%.

At the same time measures have been taken to compensate working people for the price rises and to ensure that their families' living standards are maintained. As of 1 February wage supplements of 6,000 zlotys a month per worker will be introduced at enterprises and establishments in the state sector. Those enterprises which achieve good economic indicators may pay supplements in addition to that amount. Pensions are to be increased on average by around 52%. Grants, family and medical benefits, and other social payments to pensioners, invalids, and families on low incomes are being increased.

Soviet-Polish Space Experiment Completed

LD012248 Moscow TASS in English 2023 GMT 1 Feb 88

[Text] Warsaw February 1 TASS—TASS Correspondent Andrey Pershin reports:

The Soviet-Polish space experiment "Ionozond-2" conducted with the use of an artificial earth satellite "Cosmos-1809" has been concluded successfully. The spacecraft that was put into a near-earth orbit on December 18, 1986 was meant above all for geophysical explorations in the ionosphere. Polish equipment for the study of high-frequency waves has been installed on the sputnik. Throughout the past year the highly-sensitive equipment has been registering phenomena in the ionosphere.

Scientists from the space exploration centre of the Polish Academy of Sciences now embarked, jointly with the Soviet colleagues, on the processing on data obtained during the experiment in orbit. A lot of interesting facts have been obtained. They refer, specifically, to wave propagation in the upper layers of the atmosphere, effects on the ionosphere of the ground-based radio transmitting devices.

Polish Leaders Receive Broadcasting Official
LD310423 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 30 Jan 88

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] In Warsaw today Wojciech Jaruzelski received Comrade Aksenov, Central Board of the Soviet-Polish Friendship Society chairman, USSR State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting chairman. A warm and friendly conversation took place.

Comrade Aksenov was received by Roman Malinowski, Sejm marshal and All-Polish Council of the Polish-Soviet Friendship Society chairman, and by Jan Glowczyk, Politburo member and PZPR Central Committee secretary.

A protocol has been signed in Warsaw on cooperation in television and radio Broadcasting and the Polish Committee for Radio and Television Affairs. A wide plan for the exchange of programs, joint broadcasts, and television and radio bridges was mapped out.

Horeni Presents Jakes Message to Amity Group
AU311508 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 27 Jan 88 pp 1,7

[CTK report: "We Want to Solve the New Tasks Together; Celebrations of the 30th Anniversary of the Soviet-Czechoslovak Friendship Society; Greetings Message From Comrade Milos Jakes"]

[Excerpts] Moscow—The celebrations of the 30th anniversary of the establishment of the Soviet-Czechoslovak Friendship Society culminated at the expanded session of the society's Central Board in Moscow on Tuesday [26 January]. The session was attended by Zdenek Horeni, CPCZ Central Committee Secretariat member, Central Committee of the Soviet-Czechoslovak Friendship Society (SCSP) chairman, and chief editor of RUDE PRAVO. [passage omitted]

Zdenek Horeni sincerely thanked all the members of the society for their devoted work for the development of Soviet-Czechoslovak relations. He pointed out the broad international significance of restructuring in the USSR, which is received by the Czechoslovak people as an inspiring example.

Bearing in mind the new conditions and opportunities, we want to continue deepening cooperation with our Soviet partners. We are faced by new tasks, which we want to solve together, the SCSP chairman declared.

Zdenek Horeni acquainted the participants of the session with the greetings message sent to them by Milos Jakes, CPCZ Central Committee general secretary. The message states:

Dear Comrades, on behalf of the CPCZ Central Committee and on my own behalf I send you cordial greetings and congratulations on the 30th anniversary of the establishment of the Soviet-Czechoslovak Friendship Society.

We recall this significant anniversary at a time when the working people of our two fraternal countries are accomplishing the demanding tasks of the strategy of accelerating socioeconomic development, restructuring, and the democratization of society set by the 27th CPSU Congress and 17th CPCZ Congress. They are striving to achieve revolutionary transformations in all spheres of social life, in the interests of consolidating and further developing socialism.

The achievement of these goals is linked with the deepening of Czechoslovak-Soviet friendship and alliance, with the implementation of new approaches to the economic, scientific-technical, cultural, and other spheres of cooperation. The development of direct production relations between Czechoslovak and Soviet enterprises and institutions is providing us with extensive opportunities, as is the establishment of joint enterprises and associations and the elaboration of long-term concepts of the division of labor.

The course taken last year by the Month of Czechoslovak-Soviet Friendship and the Days of RSFSR in our fatherland, as well as the results of my recent friendly work visit to the Soviet Union and of negotiations [jednani] with Mikhail Gorbachev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary, have convincingly proved once again how firm are the relations of fraternal friendship between the Czechoslovak people and the people of the Soviet Union. We regard them as the guarantee of a secure and happy life.

An essential condition for reaching our joint goals is the ensurance of peace and the enforcement of new political thinking in international relations. The Czechoslovak Communists, the working people in our fatherland, have warmly received the signing of the Soviet-U.S. Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range

Missiles. Together with the other socialist states, our country is energetically supporting the Soviet initiatives which are aimed at ridding the world of the threat of a nuclear catastrophe by the end of the present century.

The fraternal organizations—the SCSP and the Soviet-Czechoslovak Friendship Society—are doing meritorious work in consolidating friendship and cooperation between our nations. We hold in great respect the activities of your society, its voluntary officials, its aktivists, and all the members who are contributing toward bringing the life and work of Czechoslovak people closer to Soviet society.

I wish the Soviet-Czechoslovak Friendship Society much success in the coming years in fulfilling its noble mission: to contribute toward consolidating the principles of friendship and cooperation between the CSSR and USSR in the interests of socialism, progress, and peace in the world. [passage omitted]

Zdenek Horeni was received by Vadim Medvedev, CPSU Central Committee secretary, in Moscow on Tuesday [26 January].

During their talk, which was held in a cordial, comradely atmosphere, they stressed the significance of further activating public activity in both countries in the interests of consolidating Soviet-Czechoslovak relations.

West Europe

Britain's Howe To Visit USSR Mid-February

LD011810 Moscow TASS in English 1804 GMT 1 Feb 88

[Text] Moscow February 1 TASS—British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe will pay an official visit to the Soviet Union in mid-February at the invitation of the Soviet Government, it was officially announced here today.

Preliminary Results of Finnish Elections Noted

LD012319 Moscow TASS in English 2304 GMT 1 Feb 88

[Text] Helsinki February 2 TASS—None of the Finnish presidential candidates gained more than half of the votes to be elected president directly during the presidential elections held in Finland from January 31 to February 1, according to preliminary results.

99.9 percent of the votes have been counted. The current President Mauno Koivisto got 47.9 percent of the votes and his runner-up Paavo Veyrynen 20.1 percent. 82.6 percent of Finnish citizens who are eligible for voting took place in the elections.

Under the election legislation, the elections are entering the second stage. A College of Electors to be chosen by results of the current voting is meeting in parliament on February 15 to elect the president of the Republic of Finland. The president elect will take office on March 1.

Swedish Energy Minister on Moscow Talks

PM021019 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 29 Jan 88 Morning Edition p 4

[Interview with Birgitta Dahl, Swedish minister of energy and the environment, by correspondent F. Lukyanov: "We Live on the Same Planet"; place, date not given]

[Text] A Swedish delegation headed by Birgitta Dahl, Sweden's minister of energy and the environment, visited our country 24 through 27 January. Before the minister left for home, an IZVESTIYA correspondent asked her to share her impressions of the trip to the USSR.

"Our delegation set out for the USSR with the intention of discussing a wide range of questions and problems," Birgitta Dahl said. "People in both Sweden and the Soviet Union share the viewpoint that problems of environmental protection, as well as questions on war and peace, are now the most urgent on our planet. We can only resolve them together. First, our countries could cooperate successfully in protecting the Baltic. During my talks in Moscow with N.I. Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, we agreed to begin work on drawing up an agreement on bilateral cooperation in protecting the environment. In addition, we reached agreement in principle to considerably reduce discharges of industrial production waste into the Baltic. A meeting will be held in Helsinki 15-16 February at the level of the Baltic countries' ministers with a view to drawing up a specific agreement. It is proposed to halve such discharges into the sea on each side by 1995."

[Lukyanov] Power generation and problems of ecology are very interconnected. Most frequently, it is precisely power generation that becomes a source of risk to nature. Is there not an urgent need to change something in this area, too? What, in general, are the prospects for our countries' cooperation in power generation?

[Dahl] We must make existing power generation ecologically safe and work with alternative sources, such as, for example, solar energy and so forth. Use of the latest technology can change a great deal. The Swedish Government has decided to set up in Stockholm an international institute on problems of technology and the environment, which would disseminate the most advanced, ecologically harmless technology in all countries. The institute will be truly international: both in its leadership and its cadres. We have also invited Soviet scientists to it—to which we have received the Soviet side's consent. In addition, both sides have organized a joint working group to examine the possibilities of cooperation in the

sphere of power generation. The prospects of deliveries of oil and up to 1-1.5 billion cubic meters of gas to Sweden from the USSR by the beginning of the nineties are being discussed.

One of the chief questions in our talks was the issue of the safe operation of nuclear power stations. As is known, an agreement on this was signed during the recent visit to Sweden of N.I. Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers. In Moscow we have received answers to all our questions with regard to Soviet AES's and proposed starting work on fulfilling that agreement.

[Lukyanov] In recent years, the natural resources of northern Europe have found themselves under threat of destruction as a result of the effect of "acid rain." What is being done, and what must still be done in the struggle against "acid rain"?

[Dahl] The so-called "30 Percent Club" was set up in 1984. It includes many countries, including Sweden and the USSR, which have pledged to reduce discharges of sulfur dioxide into the atmosphere by 30% by 1993. There have been certain successes here. But this only concerns sulfur dioxide, and yet nitric oxide is also a component of "acid rain...." In short, we still have many matters and opportunities for cooperation. In this sense we perceived with great interest the Murmansk initiatives in the ecological sphere advanced by M.S. Gorbachev on 1 October 1987.

Franco-West German Military Rapprochement Viewed
PM011625 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 Jan 88 Morning Edition p 3

[Own correspondent Yu. Kovalenko article: "Anniversary to the Sound of Military Marches"]

[Text] Paris—The French Post Office was one step ahead of everyone else. It issued a stamp to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Elysee accord long before the official ceremony had begun. The text printed on the stamp is a reminder that on 22 January 1963 in the Murat Salon of the Elysee Palace French President General de Gaulle and FRG Chancellor K. Adenauer signed a treaty on Franco-West German cooperation....

The treaty devotes particular attention to bilateral military cooperation— a "rapprochement of doctrines," the development of "joint concepts," the establishment of Franco-West German institutions for the study of strategic problems, and the exchange of military personnel.

In its 25-year history, relations between the two countries have had their ups and downs. They were exacerbated after France withdrew from the NATO military organization. In 1966 General de Gaulle said: "It is not our fault that the preference given by Bonn to the relationship it has established and continues to develop with Washington has emasculated the spirit and very essence of the Franco-West German treaty."

However, at the beginning of the eighties, both capitals decided to breathe new life into the agreement, concentrating their main attention on military cooperation. Paris maintained the number of its troops in West Germany, despite a reduction in its ground forces, and formed its own interventionist "rapid action forces" along the lines of the transatlantic model. In addition to this, the number and scale of joint Franco-West German exercises was considerably increased.

The upshot of all these efforts is, as the newspaper LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS has noted, that the Franco-West German axis is stronger now than ever before. There is already talk of a Paris-Bonn "binomial system." Three French divisions are currently stationed on FRG territory. Last summer former French defense ministers P. Messmer and C. Hernu proposed to station French neutron weapons (they are ready, but their series production has yet to be organized) in West Germany and give Bonn access to them. Various people are urging that the French Army be moved up closer to the GDR border.

On the threshold of the anniversary, much is being made of the idea that henceforth France and the FRG are one. Former socialist government Prime Minister L. Fabius has proposed to create a Franco-West German "confederation." For his part, Prime Minister J. Chirac recently warned that in the event of the FRG coming under attack France would immediately go to its assistance. This is the first time, according to LE MONDE, that a French politician has made such a far-reaching statement. French military experts have demanded that the authorities make it "crystal clear" that "the defense of France begins on the Elbe" and that French tactical nuclear weapons will be used to defend the whole of West Europe, including the FRG.

The FRG does not have the right to possess its own nuclear weapons, but in some circles the attraction of the nuclear button is increasing as cooperation with Paris grows stronger. At the beginning of 1986, President F. Mitterrand made a gesture to his West German partner by saying that France would consult with it in the event of having to use its tactical nuclear weapons. J. Chirac has indicated the need to extend the French nuclear umbrella to the FRG.

The Franco-West German "Moineau Hardi" exercises conducted in Bavaria in autumn 1987—the largest exercises to date—and attended by F. Mitterrand and H. Kohl were a first in many respects. This was the first time the French "rapid action forces" had been transferred to FRG territory, where they operated a mere 80 km from the Czechoslovak border. This was the first time these forces had been commanded by a Bundeswehr representative. "We have proved," General Paul Lardri [name as published], commander of the rapid action

forces, said, "that we are a reserve of the North Atlantic alliance. This is the first step toward creating a Eurodefense." Someone called Bryuson—the pseudonym of a high-ranking military official—claimed in LE FIGARO that the maneuvers had demonstrated that nuclear deterrence is not some "Maginot Line" behind which France can hide, taking a defensive, neutralist stance. On the contrary, "it is a shield which will allow it, if need be, to unsheathe its sword and inflict a far-reaching blow."

Apart from these maneuvers, a whole series of events signifying the expansion of Franco-West German military cooperation took place last year. In particular, the formation of a Franco-West German brigade was announced. The military department was reluctant to tell me anything definite on this score. Judging by the press, however, the brigade—which will initially be under the command of a French general—will be stationed near the West German town of Boeblingen, not far from Stuttgart. It will incorporate units from the French Army's I Corps and West German units not subordinate to the NATO military command. The number of personnel will probably be in the region of 3,000-4,000. The question of the brigade's nuclear cover has also been raised.

The Paris celebrations marking the 25th anniversary of the treaty on Franco-West German cooperation were held with great pomp and ceremony. FRG Chancellor H. Kohl came as head of a large government delegation. The official ceremony and joint session of the two countries' governments concluded with the signing of two new documents supplementing the Elysee accord: to establish a defense and security council and a council on financial and economic issues which will be responsible for promoting the further consolidation of ties between France and the FRG.

A special role will be played by the defense and security council, which will be headed by the French president and the FRG chancellor. It will include the two countries' defense ministers, foreign ministers, and the chiefs of general staff of the French and West German Armies. It will concern itself with the development of a general strategy, the formation of joint military subdivisions, the strengthening of cooperation in the arms production sphere, and the holding of joint maneuvers. It cannot be denied that this is an extensive program with far-reaching aims.

Some experts believe that successful bilateral military cooperation between Paris and Bonn is impeded by the fact that France lies outside the NATO military command. However, Atlanticists are hoping that the increased military cooperation between Bonn and Paris will accelerate France's return to the bosom of NATO.

The signing of the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles was greeted with differing degrees of enthusiasm on the Rhine and the Seine. At the same time, however, both capitals have adopted a course geared to military integration and a stronger Paris-Bonn military tandem, which can be regarded as the first stage of a Eurodefense equipped with nuclear weapons.

Italian CP Leader on F-16 Transfer to Italy

LD011828 Moscow TASS in English 1659 GMT 1 Feb 88

[Text] Rome February 1 TASS—The transfer of 72 American F-16 fighter-bombers from Spain to Italy might emasculate the content of the Soviet-American Treaty on the Elimination of the Intermediate-Range and Shorter-Range Missiles. In accordance with the accord reached between Spain and the United States, these planes are to leave within three years the Torrejon de Ardoz base.

Besides, deployment of these planes in Italy will inevitably lead to a further growth of tension in the Mediterranean. This was stated in an interview to the journal RINASCITA by Antonio Rubbi, a member of the leadership of the Italian Communist Party. "The double function" of these planes, i.e. their capability to carry aboard both conventional and nuclear armaments, he said, make them an inalienable past of the NATO doctrine which provides for hitting strikes deep in the enemy's territory.

Upon their deployment in Italy, F-16 planes with a flight range of almost 1,000 kilometres, will be able to reach the Soviet Union's territory, RINASCITA writes. These planes are nothing but "a destabilising" weapon" [quotation marks as received] bound to ensure unilateral military superiority. Actually, F-16 fighter-bombers can discharge the same role as the intermediate-range and shorter-range missiles, the journal writes.

New conditions have now appeared for conducting negotiations on reduction of conventional armaments which have been stockpiled in the world, Antonio Rubbi underlines. But, despite positive changes, which took place in East-West relations, certain circles in Western Europe are trying to advance not towards reducing the quantity of weapons, but towards building up their own forces, expecting to start negotiations only after attaining military equilibrium at a higher armament level. In these conditions the Italian Government should put forward concrete initiatives aimed at reducing armaments and searching an equilibrium at a lower level, believes the member of the leadership of the Italian Communist Party. Instead of accepting American F-16 planes, the Italian Government should act towards the Mediterranean Sea to become an area of peace and cooperation.

Nicaragua's Ortega Speaks at Rome Briefing

LD301519 Moscow TASS In English 1430 GMT 30 Jan 88

[Text] Rome January 30 TASS—A press conference by Daniel Ortega at the foreign press association here was devoted to the issues of a peaceful settlement in Central America, the democratic transformations and national reconciliation in Nicaragua.

The president is in Italy on a visit during which he discussed with representatives of the Italian Government and leaders of political parties problems of the Central American region and ways to settle the crisis in the region.

The meetings with Italy's political leaders have demonstrated that the plan of forming an international commission on monitoring the course of peaceful settlement, which was worked out during the meeting of the presidents of five Central American countries in San Jose, capital of Costa Rica, enjoys wide support, Ortega said. "It is important that other states too join the efforts by the Contadora Group countries aimed at achieving peace", the Nicaraguan president said.

Touching upon the U.S. policy towards Nicaragua, Ortega said that "Congress' move against financing the contras could become the United States' greatest contribution to the cause of peace. In a different case, Nicaragua will urge the international community to denounce the actions by the Reagan administration which boycotts the plan of a peace settlement and disregards the efforts taken by Central American countries".

Ortega spoke about the processes under way inside Nicaragua, the Sandinist government's activity aimed at extending the civil rights and political freedoms and building a truly democratic society in Nicaragua. He recalled that about a thousand of former opponents of the people's power have been released recently and emphasized that the country's government was ready to take a humane step and announce an amnesty to the contras who were taken prisoner in the event of achieving a comprehensive and lasting peace in the region.

Ortega rejected the allegations about the "militarization" of Nicaragua. "Today, we are confronted with the undeclared war on the part of the United States and have the right to defend our homeland, our people. Right after peace is attained, the strength of our Armed Forces will be drastically reduced", the president said.

Austria's Vranitzky on INF Treaty, Peace

LD011900 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 1 Feb 88

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] [Announcer] Federal Chancellor of Austria Franz Vranitzky has given an interview to our correspondent:

[Begin recording] [Viktor Mikheyev, identified by screen caption, in German with superimposed Russian translation] How do you regard the recently signed agreement between the USSR and United States, and what will the Austrian Government be doing in order to contribute to the further relaxation of international tension and disarmament?

[Vranitzky in German with superimposed Russian translation] I have the highest opinion of the foreign policy activity of General Secretary Gorbachev. It serves the cause of strengthening peace. I expressed this evaluation officially at the session of the Austrian Government after the signing of the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles in Washington. That is my opinion. Although some people are saying that only 3% or 4% of nuclear missiles are being eliminated, the very fact of their elimination is of great significance, as it is an important step in the direction of disarmament. It is on this that the whole world is now fixing its hopes that new steps will soon be taken on the path of further curbing nuclear weapons.

Austria maintains its neutrality in the military sphere. This year we shall do everything possible to strengthen peace. In particular, we shall help achieve positive results at the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, which is taking place in Vienna. In 1988 we shall continue to fight against any manifestations of neo-Nazi ideology and those subscribing to it, which will also be a contribution to strengthening peace. [end recording]

Turkish CP Leaders 'Cruelly Tortured' in Jail

PM011641 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Jan 88 Second Edition p 5

[PRAVDA, TASS report: "Turkey"]

[Text] 22 Jan—H. Kutlu, secretary general of the Turkish Communist Party Central Committee, and N. Sargin, secretary general of the Turkish Labor Party, are being cruelly tortured while in jail. H. Kutlu, who has suffered his second heart attack, was transferred to Ankara hospital in handcuffs and later taken back to prison. This has been reported by the newspaper RIZOSPASTIS, which stresses that the Communist Party leader's life is in danger. The newspaper writes that both politicians are being tortured by electric shock.

Political & Social

'Presumed Text' of 21 Oct Yeltsin Speech

PM021324 Paris LE MONDE in French 2 Feb 88 p 6

["Presumed Text of Mr Yeltsin's Speech to CPSU Central Committee"—LE MONDE headline, first five paragraphs are Michel Tatu introduction]

[Text] Despite the lengthy discussions last November about the case of Boris Yeltsin, the Moscow party leader ousted for "adventurism" and "excessive ambition," there were large gaps in what was known about this affair. In particular, no details were given about the 21 October CPSU Central Committee session, other than that Mr Yeltsin made a strong attack on the existing leadership, before being censured for this "politically misguided" speech in a vote taken by his peers.

The document below is intended to fill those gaps. It is the translation of a document circulating in Moscow, and which is being presented as the transcript of this famous speech to the Central Committee by the Moscow first secretary.

We cannot guarantee the authenticity of this document, particularly because a reading of it raises doubts. Although the tone is as vigorous as Mr Yeltsin's customary tone, and although we can detect signs of an altercation between the speaker and Mr Ligachev, number two in the party, as had been rumored, it is difficult to see how and why this speech was interpreted as a "stab" in the leadership's back, and as an "attempt to cause a split in the Politburo," as was publicly stated later.

Similarly, the attack on Mrs Raisa Gorbachev confirms some previous rumors, but must be treated with caution. It must be remembered that the only thing which Mr Yeltsin publicly denied at the end of October (in a telephone interview with an American television channel), was precisely that he had made personal attacks on the general secretary or his wife.

However, this affair has already given rise to deliberate leaks, and the fact that such a document has been put into circulation in Moscow is itself a political phenomenon. This is another reason for adding this new item to a file which is still shrouded in mystery.

"Comrades! Like all those present here, I was very impressed by Comrade Gorbachev's report. It reflected the full complexity of the heroic path followed by our people over 70 years of socialism. Yes, we are pioneers, and this is the reason for some painful and difficult chapters in our history. Of course, Comrade Gorbachev is right: If we want to move forward with confidence, we must know and study the mistakes made along the path, to ensure that they are never repeated. His report gives us a detailed and objective analysis of our world's stormy and at times contradictory political life. He has shown us the essential, I would say crucial, role played by our state. And, comrades, we can legitimately be proud of this beneficial and positive influence which our country has on events in the world.

"Yes, it is difficult to overestimate the importance of restructuring our society for the future of socialism in the world. Yes, it is now that the question of whether or not there will be a socialist society in the world is being decided! It is precisely for this reason, comrades, that I would like to dwell on some painful problems which are curbing restructuring in some cases. Mikhail Sergeyevich suggested that I should postpone discussion of these problems until after the anniversary celebrations. But, I do not think that the anniversary atmosphere will hamper us and, instead, it will help us to examine these questions seriously and with party honesty and to give them a principled, Leninist assessment.

"As you know, comrades, the Moscow Gorkom and I receive many letters from workers in which Muscovites inform us of their ideas, their doubts, and their hopes for restructuring. Well, comrades, when you start to read this correspondence and try to answer it, the anniversary spirit vanishes. Yes, comrades, it is difficult for me to explain to a factory worker why, on the 70th anniversary of his gaining political power, he is forced to stand in line to buy sausages in which there is more starch than meat, whereas our tables are loaded with sturgeon, caviar, and all kinds of delicacies easily acquired from a place which he cannot even approach.

"How can I explain that to veterans and to those who fought in the civil war, the survivors of which can be counted on your fingers? Have you seen the list of foods ordered for the anniversary celebrations? It was brought to me, and shown to me. How am I supposed to react when they say that these are the remnants from the feast? Do you understand what feast they mean? How can I look them in the eye? It was they who laid down their lives to win power and entrusted it to us. What can I say to them now? Perhaps Comrade Ligachev (Footnote 1) (Yegor Ligachev is party number two and, as he told LE MONDE (4 December 1987), he directs the party secretariat's activity and chairs its sessions) will whisper the answer to me? I think, comrades, that all these binges, as the people call them, are a legacy from the great period of stagnation which we experienced in our lives. We must put an end to this phenomenon.

"I do not think that those for whom all kinds of privileges give meaning to their lives and work are our fellow travelers. Do not shout at me, Comrade Ligachev. I do not need lessons from you. I am not a kid. This is my principled line. And I must tell you frankly, comrade, that it is difficult to work when, instead of friendly, practical help, you only receive sermons and crude rebuffs. In this connection, comrades, I am forced to ask

the Politburo to spare me petty supervision from Raisa Maximovna (Footnote 2) (Reference to Mrs Gorbachev, the general secretary's wife), her telephone calls, and her almost daily reprimands.

"Comrades, I have some rather depressing figures relating to the various institutions of the Moscow administrative apparatus, but I will not spoil the anniversary atmosphere, especially since most comrades know them. Remember how much discussion there has been, how many resolutions adopted! But the number of bureaucrats has not fallen in most departments; it has even increased in the agro-industrial committee (Footnote 3) (the Gosagroprom, or State Agro-industrial Committee, replaced the ministry of agriculture and several other ministries in 1985. It is chaired by Mr Murakhovskiy, one of Mr Gorbachev's close aides.) for instance! That is what is holding us back. It is here that restructuring is marking time. It is here that all the good intentions become bogged down in bureaucracy. Comrades, we must realize that until we eliminate the army of bureaucrats and pettifogging officials—I use the word army advisedly, comrades—our restructuring will have no future, all our resolutions and decisions will be lost in the tide of instructions and forms.

"The situation is not improving in commerce. I have told you, comrades, what the position is here in Moscow. Since then, little has changed, the same ministry officials are covering up for 'under the counter' thieves. I do not think that they do so for humanitarian reasons. No, Comrade Chebrikov (Footnote 4) (Mr Chebrikov is chairman of the KGB, the political police), I am sorry, but these are facts.

"There is too much talking, comrades, but no progress is being made. Meanwhile, the ordinary man is not deriving any benefit from these discussions. 'The cat Vaslea listens and goes on eating.' (Footnote 5) (Russian proverb equivalent to: 'The dogs bark, the caravan passes.') He does not care about debate as long as his feeding dish is still there. It is time to take action, comrades. It is time to use our power, and we have it. This power is given to us by the people. If we drown in talk without using our power to defend the people's real interests against greedy cats, restructuring will produce no results.

"There is another problem, comrades, a serious problem which we inherited. It is Afghanistan, comrades. Almost one third of the letters which we receive relate to this question. You all know the results of the opinion poll of Muscovites which a French journalist conducted in Moscow on this subject (Footnote 6) (This is probably the joint opinion poll conducted by the French IPSOS, LE POINT and Soviet specialized institutes in fall 1987). And, I think, comrades, that there cannot be two opinions. This problem must be solved as quickly as possible. The troops must be withdrawn from Afghanistan. I think that it is precisely this question which Comrade Shevardnadze (Footnote 7) (Soviet foreign minister) should closely examine. At present he is dealing with other matters, which I regard as less urgent, and he has been abroad for months.

"In conclusion, I would like to express my deep conviction that our present difficulties are initial difficulties, arising at the beginning of a transitional period, that we must overcome them, and that we will overcome them as quickly as possible. I would like to assure you, comrades, that the Moscow party organization, drawing support form all the city's Communists, all Muscovites, and patriots, will make every effort to ensure that this painful period ends as quickly as possible with complete victory for the ideas of restructuring."

Leaders Address Economic Studies Course

PM011441 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Jan 88 Second Edition p 4

[Unattributed report: "Cadre Training"]

[Text] An economic training course has ended at the CPSU Central Committee Academy of Social Sciences' Institute for improving the skills of leading party, soviet, and ideological cadres. The course was attended by secretaries of union republic Communist Party central committees, party kraykoms and obkoms, and deputy chairmen of union and autonomous republic councils of ministers, ispolkoms, and kray and oblast soviets in charge of industrial and construction questions [sentence as published].

There was an examination of the key questions of improving the party leadership of the economy and enhancing the role and responsibility of soviet and economic organs in the second stage of restructuring.

The main attention was focused on party and soviet organs' tasks in fulfilling the CPSU Central Committee June (1987) Plenum's decisions and carrying out the radical economic reform in the conditions specific to 1988 brought about by the entry into force of the USSR Law on the State Enterprise (Association) and by the transfer of the majority of associations and enterprises to full economic accountability and self-financing. There was a discussion of the key questions of the restructuring of planning, material and technical supply, the financial mechanism, price formation, and the credit and payment system.

The main tasks of local party and soviet organs in resolving problems of accelerating scientific and technical progress and developing machine building, heavy industry, the power industry, transport, and the construction, chemical, and timber complex were determined. It was stressed that there must be a substantial improvement of work in the development of the social sphere, the population's food supply, and the provision of high quality goods and services.

Ways of restructuring the activity of republic, kray, and oblast organs of management and of organizing their cooperation with economically accountable enterprises and associations were discussed. Mention was made of the increased importance of work with cadres, of improving their skill, and of mastering economic expertise and the new economic management methods.

There was a broad exchange of opinions on the forms and methods of the work of party committees and people's soviets in conditions of the radical economic reform and the development of democracy and labor collectives' self-management.

N.N. Slyunkov, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, delivered a report and the closing speech.

Students were addressed by L.N. Zaykov, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, V.I. Dolgikh, candidate member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; Yu.P. Batalin, L.A. Voronin, V.K. Gusev, and B.L. Tolstykh, deputy chairmen of the USSR Council of Ministers; V.S. Pasternak, chief of the CPSU Central Committee Transport and Communications Department; M.I. Busygin, B.N. Gostev, G.D. Kolmogorov, and M.S. Shkabardnya, ministers and chairman of USSR State Committees; N.V. Garetovskiy, chairman of the board of the USSR Gosbank, and leaders of other ministries and departments.

Those attending the course met with executives of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Council of Ministers, the USSR Gosplan, the USSR Ministry of Finance, leaders of large associations and enterprises, and teachers of the CPSU Central Committee Academy of Social Sciences and viewed the latest examples of Soviet machine-building output at the USSR Exhibition of National Economic Achievements.

Biryukova Tour of Turkmenia Described

Arrives in Ashkhabad

PM291329 Ashkhabad TURKMENSKAYA ISKRA in Russian 19 Jan 88 p 1

[TURKMENINFORM report: "CPSU Central Committee Secretary A.P. Biryukova's Arrival in Turkmenistan"]

[Text] A.P. Biryukova, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, arrived in Ashkhabad from Moscow 18 January.

The CPSU Central Committee secretary was met at the airport by S.A. Niyazov, first secretary of the Turkmen Communist Party Central Committee; A.S. Boyko, Kh. Durdyyev, V.F. Zhulenev, N.V. Makarkin, Yu.K. Mogilevets, A. Kurbanova, V.A. Kharkov, V.S. Chertishchev, Kh. Akhmedov, Ya.P. Gundogdyyev, and V.G. Otchertsov, members and candidate members of the Turkmen Communist Party Central Committee Bureau; and B. Annayev, R.A. Bazarova, and V.Ye. Abramov, deputy chairmen of the Turkmen SSR Council of Ministers.

Visits Factories

PM291323 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Jan 88 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Visit to Turkmen SSR"]

[Text] A.P. Biryukova, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, visited the Turkmen SSR 18-23 January. She was familiarizing herself with the activity of the republic's party organization in implementing the radical economic reform, fulfilling the party's social policy, and resolving one of its priority tasks—satisfying people's demand for goods and services.

The Central Committee secretary visited the F.E. Dzerzhinskiy Cotton Combine, the No 1 Sewn Goods Factory, and the "Turkmenkover" Production Association in Ashkhabad, a spinning and weaving factory, a knitwear factory, a silk combine in Chardzhou, the Bezmein Carpet Combine, the Kaakhka Cotton Ginning Plant, visited the republic's Exhibition of National Economic Achievements, the "Sovet Turkmenistany" and S. Khalturin Kolkhozes, and a number of trade, consumer services, and catering premises.

The conversations at labor collectives and with party, soviet, and economic leaders centered on questions of increasing the production of high-quality consumer goods, expanding the range, and ensuring a balance between money incomes and goods supplies. It was pointed out that it is necessary to reject parasitical attitudes, to more actively seek out internal reserves for supplying the market with various goods and services and bring those reserves into operation, and involve in their production all group A enterprises in the republic regardless of their type and departmental subordination.

Special attention was paid to the work of Turkmenistan's light industry on the principles of economic accountability and self-financing. It was noted that the use of new economic management methods is bearing fruit. However, a radical breakthrough has still not been achieved in this sector's work. A considerable number of enterprises have been breaching contractual discipline, failing to cope with plan targets, and are loss-making, and the existing production potential is being poorly used. At the same time the republic imports more than one-half of the market supply of clothing, footwear, and knitwear and over 70% of children's goods from other parts of the country.

The task set is to ensure the transfer of all light and local industry enterprises to two- and three-shift working, especially since the necessary labor resources already exist. A real campaign should be mounted for thrift and

the reduction of output prime costs and the creation of stable labor collectives. It was stressed that it is important to organize real rather than purely formal general economic education, to train cadres, leaders, and specialists in production, and to ensure that they are able to work in conditions of self-management, the development of democracy, and the operation of the Law on the State Enterprise.

During meetings with residents of cities and settlements there was a frank discussion of how restructuring is progressing and how social questions are being resolved. The CPSU Central Committee secretary asked about working people's living and everyday conditions, trade and medical services, and the population's food supply.

A.P. Biryukova met with the republic's party aktiv.

Flowers were laid at the capital's V.I. Lenin monument and its memorial to the Turkmen soldiers who died during the Great Patriotic War.

A.P. Biryukova was accompanied on her visit to the republic by S.A. Niyazov, first secretary of the Turkmen Communist Party Central Committee.

Party CC Criticizes Kiev Party Organization

PM011411 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 31 Jan 88 Second Edition p 1,2

["At the CPSU Central Committee: On the Kiev City Party Organization's Work in Implementing the 27th CPSU Congress Decisions"—PRAVDA headline]

[Text] The CPSU Central Committee notes that positive changes have taken place in the Kiev city party organization of late. Varied work is under way to implement the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and the subsequent Central Committee plenums and the policy of restructuring and socioeconomic acceleration adopted by the party. Glasnost and democratic principles in production management and cadre selection and placement are taking root in party organizations and labor collectives. The working people's production and social activeness is growing. The inhabitants of Kiev are displaying broad support for restructuring and are contributing to its consolidation with practical deeds. The city's economy is developing at an increasing rate and many of its qualitative indicators are improving.

At the same time, the CPSU Central Committee considers that the Kiev city party organization has wasted time during the initial stage of restructuring and has failed to properly launch the work necessary to ensure the organizational and ideological backup of restructuring. The gorkom and raykoms continue to drag their feet, they are lagging in improving the style and work with cadres and primary party organizations, and they have still to rid themselves completely of formalism and obsolete methods of leadership.

Restructuring has failed to penetrate deeply the life of primary party organizations and labor collectives. Many party organizations have not taken up active, assertive positions and their elective organs have not been transformed into the combat headquarters of restructuring. Not enough care is taken to step up Communists' activeness and responsibility. By no means all cadres have given up their complacent attitudes and set about energetically removing the accretions of the past. Self-criticism is lacking in the way in which some of them assess their own work and try to ascribe their omissions to extraneous circumstances. Many leading cadres have still not learned how to work in conditions of developing democracy, they display an incorrect attitude to criticism, and they fail to engage in day-to-day work in the education of people.

Political work in the masses is not always closely in line with the specific tasks of restructuring. Sometimes it is abstract, divorced from labor collectives' vital concerns and people's problems, and fails to respond promptly to crucial issues. The struggle against drunkenness has slackened in the city.

Social questions have not been given priority in the work of party, soviet, trade union, and economic organs. The rate of construction of housing, schools, hospitals, stores, and other cultural and consumer facilities and the level of production of consumer goods and expansion of their range are increasing slowly in Kiev. There have been cases of violation of social justice in the allocation of apartments by enterprises, organizations, and institutions and instances of red tape and a formal approach to the solution of the working people's legitimate requests and demands. All this is having a negative effect on the people's mood and draws sharp criticism from them, directed above all at the gorispolkom.

The attention of economic cadres and labor collectives is not focused sufficiently on questions of intensification, acceleration of scientific and technological progress, and enhancement of production efficiency. Reconstruction and retooling of production capacities is proceeding at a slow pace, the latest high-performance equipment is not being used effectively enough, and enterprises' switch to shift work is being delayed or effected in a formalistic manner. Kiev plants are losing the positions they attained earlier in terms of improving output quality and updating the product mix.

The party gorkom and raykoms have failed to exert proper influence on the work of academic and sector scientific research institutes and the subject matter and productivity of their scientific projects. The work of many of these institutes is divorced from the vital needs of the national economy, and they have failed to make a tangible contribution to the acceleration of scientific and technical progress.

Work on restructuring higher and secondary specialized education, implementing the school reform, and enhancing the quality of the teaching and educational process is making slow progress.

The city party organization's standard of intraparty life does not accord fully with the tasks of democratization and increasing activeness in the party ranks. The principle of collective leadership, criticism, self-criticism, relations of party comradeship, frankness, and principled exactingness have not been properly developed in intraparty life. Some party members have lost interest in party affairs and are watching from the sidelines. The struggle for a pure and honest image of party members is not being waged properly, sometimes exactingness toward Communist leaders and all cadres for the work with which are entrusted is relaxed, and not enough care is taken to improve the ideological and moral tempering of leading cadres and to ensure that their work is monitored from "above" and from "below."

The CPSU Central Committee has resolved:

1. To instruct the Kiev party gorkom, raykoms, and city party primary organizations to radically improve their political and organizational work on implementing the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and the CPSU Central Committee plenums and to steadily advance and deepen restructuring. All the preparations for the 19th all-union party conference are to be conducted under this banner.

The attention and resources of party, soviet, and economic organs and trade union and Komsomol organizations must be focused on the key problems which will decide the fate of restructuring—implementation of the economic reform, improvement of the people's well-being, democratization of social life, and enhancement of people's social consciousness. At the current, second stage of restructuring it is necessary to fully utilize the political, economic, and moral prerequisites created during the post-congress period to achieve major progress in all spheres of socioeconomic development and ensure the successful fulfillment of the plans for the 12th 5-Year Plan.

2. The CPSU Central Committee emphasizes that the city party organization is expected to set an example of democracy, collective leadership, and high exactingness in its internal life. It is necessary to firmly establish and constantly maintain the atmosphere of efficiency, constructive criticism, and creative quest which was created during the report meetings of party committees and bureaus on the leadership of restructuring. It is necessary to enhance the importance of the elective party organs and the role played by the Communists elected to these organs in the collective discussion and solution of key intraparty questions and socioeconomic and ideological tasks. It is necessary to ensure a fundamental breakthrough in the work of primary party organizations and to constantly seek to ensure that every organization is marked by a spirit of militancy, assertiveness, and intolerance of shortcomings. It is necessary to enhance the vanguard role and responsibility of party members, constantly bearing in mind that the success of restructuring depends primarily on the energy, purposefulness, and example set by every Communist. Special attention must be paid to improving the ideological and organizational standard of the party education network and to instilling in Communists and nonparty people a profound understanding of our history with all its achievements and contradictions and of the party's policy of acceleration and the renewal of society.

The initiative and independence of the soviets and of trade union, Komsomol, and other social organizations and associations must be further developed. Care must be taken to ensure that their day-to-day work is closely geared to the solution of vitally important tasks, that it fully reflects the interests of the working people and effectively contributes to the growth of the social activeness of all strata of the population and the deepening of socialist self-management.

3. It is necessary persistently to improve ideological work and to gear it fully to the tasks arising during the new, decisive stage of restructuring. Propaganda and agitation must seek to reveal the essence of the policy of restructuring, to prove the absolute need for this policy, and to encourage the working people to actively participate in the practical implementation of the transformations that are being implemented, working creatively and giving their all. It is necessary to persistently teach the party aktiv and ideological cadres to conduct ideological political work skilfully in conditions of democratization, to seek to persuade people, to be able to explain questions that arise well, with good arguments, and to resolutely rebuff any manifestations of bourgeois morality, apolitical attitudes, and social demagoguery. It is necessary to educate the working people constantly in the spirit of fraternal friendship among the peoples of the USSR, Soviet patriotism, and proleterian, socialist internationalism.

The gorkom, raykoms, and primary party organizations must effectively influence the education of the rising generation and the implementation of the general educational, vocational, and higher educational school reform. Representatives of literature and art must be involved more actively in the process of enriching spiritual life, and efforts must be made to constantly enhance their social responsibility and creative output. Better use must be made of Kiev's revolutionary, historical, and cultural heritage in educational work among various sections of the population.

4. Party committees and organizations are instructed to work vigorously on restructuring economic management and switching enterprises and scientific organizations to full economic accountability [khozraschet] and self-financing and to ensure that this work is implemented strictly in accordance with the provisions of the USSR

Law on the State Enterprise (Association). It is necessary in every way to promote the firm establishment of new economic management methods and democratic principles in production management and the creation of labor collective councils as organs in their own right. It is necessary to show unremitting concern for the strengthening of labor and state discipline and the education of all workers in the spirit of a highly organized, conscientious attitude to work and to organize economic education for cadres.

It is necessary to ensure the steady development of all economic sectors on the basis of comprehensive production intensification, primarily through qualitative growth factors. The fulfillment of output delivery contracts, progress in the reconstruction and retooling of production capacities, especially in machine building and the light and processing industries, the implementation of plans for introducing new equipment, updating the product range, improving output quality, and the fulfillment of targets for raw material, fuel, and energy savings must be placed under strict party control. The introduction of shift work at enterprises must be speeded up.

6. It is a matter of honor for the city party organization to fully mobilize the powerful scientific potential available in Kiev and to place it in the service of scientific and technical progress. The gorkom, raykoms and primary party organizations must create an atmosphere of bold, creative quest in scientific and design collectives, pool their efforts, and channel them into the elaboration of the latest types of equipment and technology that will revolutionize production and make it possible to sharply improve its quality parameters. It is necessary to enhance the standard of training of scientific cadres and specialists for the national economy and to increase the contribution of VUZ science to the acceleration of scientific and technical progress.

7. The party gorkom and raykoms and soviet gorispolkom and rayispolkoms are instructed, within the shortest possible time, to eliminate the lag which has built up in the development of the city's social sphere. It is necessary to constantly increase the volume of housing construction and the construction of cultural and consumer facilities. It is necessary to ensure the further expansion of the production and range of food products and consumer goods. It is necessary to adopt effective measures to improve medical services for the working people, to develop the trade and public catering network, and to strengthen the material base of health care and culture.

8. Party and soviet organs are expected to pay unremitting attention to the further reinforcement of socialist legality and law and order and to ensure reliable protection of citizens' rights. They must wage an uncompromising struggle against bureacracy, all kind of abuses, and encroachments on socialist property. They must display great exactingness in these questions toward law enforcement bodies and all people in official positions and to resolutely stamp out any deviations from the law and the principles of social justice, no matter who commits them. They must enhance the role and activeness of people's control organs.

9. The entire work with cadres must effectively promote party political support for restructuring. It is necessary to actively support and promote truly talented, resourceful people who are capable of working in the new way. It is necessary to encourage workers in every way to adopt an independent and responsible approach to production and social matters. It is necessary to widely translate into practice the demand for all officials to be accountable to labor collectives and the population. Every leader must be assessed according to his ability to work in the conditions of democratization and the new economic mechanism and to achieve "a practical improvement in the content of his work," as V.I. Lenin demanded.

10. The Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee is instructed to increase its attention to the city party organization and to give it specific, businesslike assistance in deepening restructuring and solving pressing problems in Kiev's economic and social development.

Stavropol Kraykom Plenum on Restructuring

PM011815 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian
26 Jan 88 First Edition p 2

[Special correspondents M. Mikhalkov and V. Udachin report: "Through the Prism of Economic Accountability. From a Plenum of Stavropol CPSU Kraykom"]

[Excerpts] The first speaker who spoke in the debate at the CPSU kraykom plenum proposed that the positive nature of its bureau's work in the leadership of restructuring be acknowledged. Was this not a hasty assessment? We think not. Especially since it was given by Raisa Fedorovna Gudarenko, first secretary of Trunovskiy CPSU Raykom, who is well known for her bluntness and principledness. This assessment did not, of course, mean that the debate could be cut short. On the contrary, the very tone of the bureau report delivered by I.S. Boldyrev, first secretary of the kraykom, devoid of complacency and daydreaming, elicited a frank and exacting discussion

Many speakers noted that recently the bureau's work style has changed for the better and that the kraykom is constantly seeking new political forms and methods of leadership. The result has been positive changes in the kray's economic and social life. In short, there is something to be stored away in the fund of experience and something to think about. Take, say, the breakthrough in the agro-industrial complex which had become discernible. Stavropol was at the spearhead of the economic reform in the agrarian sector on the initiative of the kray party organization. Two years ago most of the kray's livestock units were transferred to full economic

accountability [khozraschet] and self-financing. As the plenum's participants pointed out, the party kraykom played a leading role in the experiment's ideological and organizational backup. Long before the start of the experiment the features of the new-style management were discussed extensively at plenums of the kraykom, Karachayevo-Cherkess Obkom, and raykom plenums, at sessions of the soviets of people's deputies, and in primary party organizations. Four kray party committee groups were set up to offer practical aid, and directly on the farms they conducted cadre certification and developed a system of labor organization and remuneration, economically accountable targets, and contractual obligations. A total of 86 young specialists who studied at the Stavropol Agricultural Institute faculty to boost their qualifications and took a course in management science from the leaders of the best farms were sent to lead laggard kolkhozes and sovkhozes. This sort of large-scale preparation for the experiment largely ensured its success.

All 391 participating farms became profitable. The economic experiment gave a powerful fillip to the entire agro-industrial complex. The kray exceeded the 1990 Food Program's planned figures for the production of meat, milk, and eggs. [passage omitted]

Unfortunately, the successful practice of transferring the agro-industrial complex to self-financing did not creatively help to prepare the transition of industrial enterprises to the new conditions of economic activity. The plenum participants said that kraykom secretary V.P. Nikolayev gets preoccupied with the resolution of current production questions instead of the daily assimilation of new approaches in the party leadership of industry.

The plenum held V.S. Markaryanets, CPSU kraykom secretary, particularly responsible in this context. Once he started the ball rolling, first a host of new construction projects sprang up and then, throwing the work of other sectors into disarray, people were ordered to "shock" sites to fill the breaches and patch up the gaps. Instead of thoughtful, well-considered organizational work based on precise calculations and objective assessments of construction subunits' capabilities, everything was done with the emphasis on dashing "cavalry attacks."

The plenum closely associated the solution of the substitution problem with the upcoming reform of the economic management structure. There was no avoiding paradoxes here either. In the last 5-year plan the kray's managerial personnel was reduced to 14,500; nevertheless the overall number of managers increased by 8,400. This phenomenon can hardly be removed by mechanical reductions in the administrative apparatus. The kraykom bureau acted differently—it engaged in studying the functions of particular organs, amalgamating organizations operating in parallel, and eliminating unnecessary structures. The transfer of some managerial functions from the kray link to the city and rayon link, or directly to the labor collectives, is envisaged.

The new plan for managing the kray's economic complex will permit a 30% reduction in managerial personnel. But what a complex process this is! It would seem that everything is in favor of a reduction in the apparatus, but specific proposals had barely started to arrive when kraykom department chiefs together with krayispolkom workers began to fight to maintain virtually every management unit. The bureau had to display a great deal of stamina to uphold the truth.

In this connection talk at the plenum turned to the need to improve the structure of the party apparatus. V.A. Smolyar, secretary of the "Kavkaz" Sovkhoz party committee, submitted a proposal on the organization of a cadre department in the party kraykom. In his opinion, one of the secretaries in the gorkoms and raykoms must deal solely with cadre questions. Right now, everyone and no one is engaged in cadre selection and placement and the formation of a reserve. Moreover the bureau's report proposed the creation in the kraykom of full-blooded organizational-party work, ideological, and economic departments, which will improve the style of party leadership and eliminate substitution for and duplication of soviet and economic organs. The plenum believes that questions of changing the structure of the party apparatus must be a topic for discussion at the all-union party conference.

Economic restructuring is impossible without moral restructuring. The resolution of this task in multinational Stavropol Kray is assuming particular significance also because moral and psychological stability must be rooted in international education and the fraternal community of peoples of various nationalities. The party kraykom constantly keeps these questions in its field of vision. But it is, unfortunately, impossible to say that it has achieved perceptible improvements. More than 10,000 ablebodied people in Karachayevo-Cherkess Oblast are not engaged in the national economy. At the same time the number of representatives of the indigenous nationalities among industrial workers amounts to only 35%. Mutual protection, home-town favoritism, and national egoism are often manifested here. Many people are engaged in speculation, private enterprise, and the extraction of all manner of unearned income.

Serious shortcomings in organizational and political work are accounted for, U.Ye. Temirov, second secretary of Karachayevo-Cherkess CPSU Obkom, believes, by the fact that the party principles of cadre selection and placement are being violated. Protectionism and favoritism continue to be rife, as in the period of stagnation.

The problem of national relations, as we can see, is extremely serious in Stavropol Kray. Not to evade its resolution but to improve national relations and

strengthen the fraternal alliance of the peoples by all available means of party and ideological influence—such is one of the kraykom's main tasks in restructuring.

An exacting, frank conversation reinforced by well-considered, objective analysis took place at the plenum, and it seems that it will impart even greater speed to the renewal mechanism than that which the Stavropol Kray party organization has already begun to generate successfully.

Azerbaijan Central Committee Plenum Reported

PM021001 Baku BAKINSKIY RABOCHIY in Russian 24 Jan 88 p 1

[Unattributed "Information Report on Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee Plenum"]

[Text] An Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee plenum was held 23 January.

The plenum discussed the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee Bureau report on work in leading restructuring.

K.M. Bagirov, first secretary of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee, delivered the report.

Taking part in the debates were T.N. Rzayeva, operator at the "Kirovneft" oil and gas extraction administration; R.A. Bagirli, first secretary of the Kirovabad party gorkom; Ye.G. Protokovets, general director of the "Azerelektroterm" production association; Z.S. Aslanova, cotton growing team leader at the kolkhoz named for the 26 Baku commissars, Sabirabadskiy Rayon; F.E. Musayev, first secretary of the Baku party gorkom; T.Sh. Gasparyan, lathe operator at Baku's "Elektroshtamp" plant; A.N. Abbasov, Azaerbaijan SSR minister of higher and secondary specialized education; N.E. Mustafayev, first secretary of the Nakhichevan party obkom; T.M. Kolodina, seamstress at the Volodasrskiy sewn goods factory; B.S. Kevorkov, first secretary of the Nagorno-Karabakh party obkom; R.M. Bedirov, first secretary of the Kusarskiy party raykom; L.Kh. Rasulova, chairman of the Azerbaijan Trade Unions Council; S.N. Murtuzayev, first secretary of the Agdamskiy party raykom; S.I. Musayev, leader of a team of foundry men at the P. Montin petroleum machine-building plant; serviceman M.M. Zaytsev; S.M. Orbelyan, weaver at the Karabakh silk combine named for the 26 Baku commissars; personal pensioner B.A. Rzayev; E.G. Kuliyev, chairman of the Axerbaijan SSR State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting; R.V. Mirzoyev, first secretary of the Shaumyanovskiy (rural) party raykom; Z.G. Shoyubov, director of the Khaldan rural secondary school, Yevlakhskiy Rayon; M.Ya. Kaziyev, Azerbaijan SSR minister of social security; E.Yu. Salayev, president of the Azerbaijan SSR Academy of Sciences; N.Kh. Ramazanov, senior operator at the Baku Oil Refinery named for the 22d CPSU Congress; M.S. Mamedov, first deputy chairman of the Azerbaijan SSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the republic's Gosagroprom; D.M. Muslim-Zade, first secretary of the Sumgait party gorkom; G.N. Seidov, chairman of the Azerbaijan SSR Council of Ministers; I.A. Ibragimov, rector of the M. Azizbekov Azerbaijan Institute of Petroleum and Chemistry; N.V. Nikitin, chairman of the Kalinin Kolkhoz, Ismaillinskiy Rayon; R.E. Mekhtiyev, secretary of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee; A.Ya. Mailov, leader of a team of instrument control men at the "Glinozemtsvetmash" production association; R.D. Tariverdiyev, first secretary of the Mingechaur party gorkom; O.A. Bagirov, milling machine operator at the Kishly machine-building plant; G.G. Talybov, chairman of the Azerbaijan SSR Supreme Court; S.S. Sadykhov, chairman of the board of the Azerbaijan republican bank of the USSR Promstroybank [Industrial Construction Bank]; Sh.M. Aliyev, chairman of the Azerbaijan SSR People's Control Committee; D.D. Dzhamalova, first secretary of the Lenkoran party gorkom; K.A. Abasov, chief of the "Kaspmorneftegazprom" all-union production association; and S.N. Alekperov, first secretary of the Azerbaijan Komsomol Central Committee.

K.M. Bagirov delivered the concluding speech.

A resolution was adopted on the results of the discussion.

B.S. Semenov, first deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee chemical industry department, and CPSU Central Committee responsible workers G.M. Kozyrev and A.V. Prozorov took part in the work of the plenum.

Seventh Artists' Congress Completes Work

PM291435 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Jan 88 First Edition p 3

[TASS report: "To Create for the People. The Seventh USSR Artists' Congress Ends Its Work"]

[Text] The USSR Artists' Congress summed up the results of 5 years' work by the union and mapped out the basic avenues for its future creative and organizational activity. The sharp and fruitful discussion at the congress showed that the multinational collective of masters of fine art is fully aware of its responsibility for the restructuring of Soviet society's spiritual culture, whose basic idea is expressed by the formula: More socialism, more democracy.

The resolution adopted by delegates emphasizes that the Artists' Union is guided by the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and subsequent CPSU Central Committee plenums in its creative, ideological, educational, and propaganda work. Adhering to Lenin's principles of party-mindedness and popular spirit in art, Soviet artists perceive active participation in building the new life as their main task. In the process of improving the union's work, artists intend to be guided by the CPSU Central

Committee and USSR Council of Ministers resolution "On Measures for the Further Development of Fine Art and the Enhancement of its Role in Working People's Communist Education."

It is noted that good prospects have emerged for the improvement of exhibition work. Greater openness and glasnost in exhibitions has made it possible to display more broadly the dynamism of our time, the fruitfulness of the art of socialist realism, the wealth of creative individuality, and the variety of genres, styles, and creative quests.

At the same time, the congress drew attention to the need to accelerate the processes of restructuring in the arts and to effect fundamental changes in the union's activity. The stagnation phenomena in past years caused fine art, just like social life as a whole, to overlook acute problems and to create a semblance of well-being and lack of conflict. The practical result of this was the appearance of time-serving works which had little to do with art.

The congress deemed that concern for the further development of national art schools and the closer rapprochement of fraternal cultures constitute the most important task in the development of Soviet socialist art.

Emphasis was placed on the great need to deepen the work by associations of young artists and art critics which rally young people around artists' unions and give them an opportunity to participate widely in social and creative life.

Having noted the growing volume of cultural exchanges with foreign countries, the congress drew attention to the need to make this work more fruitful and to enhance its ideological effect.

In connection with the need to analyze all comments on the new edition of the USSR Artists' Union Rules, the congress decided to continue work on improving the rules. For this purpose, the Board was instructed to set up a Rules Commission. The new edition of the rules will be published in the press for broad discussion and will be approved by an all-union conference of USSR artists in 1988.

The results of elections to the USSR Artists' Union Board and its Central Auditing Commission were announced at the closing session on 22 January.

We artists and art critics all serve a common cause—the development of Soviet spiritual culture, B.S. Ugarov, president of the USSR Academy of Arts, said in summing up the results of the congress. The great traditions of the art of socialist realism were created and rich creative experience has been accumulated in the 7 decades since the legendary October. Relying on this, we will advance further and will create for the country and for the people.

The congress ended its work.

The USSR Artists' Union Board elected by the seventh congress held its first plenum on the same day. RSFSR People's Artist and USSR State Prize Winner A.V. Vasnetsov, painter and monumental sculptor, was elected chairman of the Board. USSR People's Artist and USSR State Prize Winner T.T. Salakhov was elected first secretary of the Board.

The plenum participants expressed thanks to USSR People's Artist N.A. Ponomarev for the many years of fruitful work as chairman of the creative union's Board.

The Central Auditing Commission elected V.M. Dubrovin as chairman at its first session.

Uzbek Foreign Relations Commission Meets

NC290824 Tashkent Domestic Service in Uzbek 1700 GMT 18 Jan 88

[Text] The Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet Permanent Foreign Relations Commission convened today to discuss the work carried out by the Uzbek Ministry of Culture and the Uzbek Academy of Sciences to further improve and develop their cultural, scientific, and technical relations with foreign countries. Deputies Rakhmanov, Kuchiyev, Kayyumov, Dzhurayeva, and Umarov, who addressed the meeting on the reports read by the leading officials of the ministry and the academy, defended the view that the level of work carried out to develop foreign relations failed to comply with the demands of the 27th CPSU Congress and the subsequent CPSU Central Committee plenums.

The meeting noted that the ministry is using the existing opportunities to develop foreign relations unsatisfactorily. The meeting also pointed to the existing deficiencies in the work carried out by the ministry to resolve the problems of the foreign students attending schools in its system. Regrettably, the (?president) of the Uzbek Academy of Sciences has not [words indistinct] for developing scientific and technical relations with foreign countries.

The decision adopted by the commission requested the Uzbek Ministry of Culture and the Academy of Sciences Presidium to implement the necessary measures to remove their deficiencies. The ministry should attach significant importance to the work carried out to renew the repertoire of its leading collectives (?which are responsible for foreign relations). The Academy of Sciences Presidium was asked to take the measures required to develop and consolidate its long-term relations with foreign scientific centers.

Yaroslavl Toxic Spill Cleaned Up; Railway Open

LD020644 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0530 GMT 2 Feb 88

[Text] Moscow, 2 Feb (TASS)—A railway accident took place in Yaroslavl 150 meters from a bridge across the Volga on the night of 1 February. Seven cars were

derailed, including three tanker cars containing a toxic chemical liquid. SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA today reports on how the consequences of the accident are being eliminated.

One of the tanker cars fell over onto its side and was no longer sealed as a result of the blow. A poisonous, evaporating liquid flowed out of the damaged hatch.

At 0900 in the morning work to eliminate the accident was being carried out at full swing. Taking part in this were major forces of the fire protection service, the militia, and chemical troops. The population was evacuated from a 500-meter zone. About 2,000 people left their homes and establishments.

In half an hour a repair train reached the location of the accident. The repair workers dealt first of all with clearing the track: 75 meters of permanent way had been damaged as a result of the accident. While the railwaymen were engaged in repair work the chemical troops tried to close the hatch of the damaged tanker car. Their attempts, however, were unsuccessful. Then the headquarters, headed by V. Kovalev, first deputy chairman of the Yaroslavl Oblast executive Committee, took a decision to pump out the contents of the tanker car using special equipment. While the special equipment was on its way to the location of the accident the chemical troops tried to localize the seat of the accident: preventing the poisonous liquid from flowing over the ground they transferred it into other containers using buckets.

During the accident the couplings joining the damaged tanker car to the others were badly twisted but not broken. It was impossible to use oxyacetylene cutting equipment to free the overturned car because the liquid was extremely explosive. They decided to try to separate the couplings by means of manipulating them with a lifting crane. The operation demanded an extremely high degree of precision and enormous self-possession on the part of the people. The freed cars were moved to a safe place. The damaged tanker car alone remained on the track. The tension in the situation began to ease.

By 1500 the main work in lifting the cars was completed, and passenger trains were running. By 1700 people began to return to the homes they had left in the morning.

The causes of the accident are being investigated by an special commission.

10 Workers Hospitalized

LD020929 Moscow World Service in English 0800 GMT 2 Feb 88

[Excerpts] According to our correspondent, life in the city of Yaroslavl, on the Volga river, where a railway accident occured Sunday night, is returning to normal. [passage omitted] There are no casualties, but 10 persons who took part in the restoration work have been hospitalized.

Pipeline Explosions Blamed on 'Gross Negligence'

PM011300 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 31 Jan 88 Morning Edition p 6

[Own correspondent V. Oliyanchuk article under the rubric "Accidents": "Bonfire Under a Gas Pipeline"]

[Text] Stavropol Kray—An explosion took place on a sector of gas pipeline of the "Sevkavgazprom's" Svetlograd Administration. Two workers died, two were hospitalized with burns of varying degrees of severity, and a cross-country truck went up in flames.

In the morning, a team of nine repair workers arrived here, under the leadership of Evald Shifer, to eliminate an ice crust—a hydrant blockage—that had been discovered inside the pipe. Usually this is done by pumping methanol into the gas pipeline—it absorbs the excess moisture and clears the blockage, and normal pressure is restored in the main line. This time the team leader and N. Ilyushchenko, chief of the administration's production and technical department, decided on a different method, an "accelerated" method, as they later put it: They gave instructions for old car tires to be thrown under a line of pipe where it crossed a little steppe stream, then sprinkled them with solar oil and set fire to them. Hardly had the bonfire begun to burn, scarcely had the pipe begun to warm up, when the gas pipeline blew apart with a roar. A whirlwind of fire threw a ZIL-131 truck onto its side, and it instantly burst into flame like a box of matches. Driver Yu. Piskunov and pipeline plumber I. Reznikov, who were standing nearby, fell dead. Gas welder V. Kukoyev received severe burns and team leader E. Shifer also suffered. The others, as the saying goes, escaped with a fright.

The firemen and the commission arrived; it took nearly 24 hours to overcome the breakdown on a gas pipeline which takes light and heat to the Caucasian spa cities. Fortunately, by switching in another network, it was possible not to leave them on starvation rations, but all the same people died and damage was done. The commission will determine exactly what damage.

"It is already possible to say," Ye. Vlasenko, deputy general director of the "Sevkavgazprom" Production Association, stressed in our conversation, "that this was the result of an irresponsible attitude, especially in emergency conditions, on the part of leaders of the Svetlograd Administration N. Maysuradze and I. Zhdanov. The direct blame rests with team leader E. Shifer, who, on his own initiative and at his own risk, started to heat a pipe in which the gas pressure had not been reduced, in fact the pumping in of methanol had begun. This occurrence is quite out of the ordinary in our practice, and it led to fatal consequences...."

That looks convincing enough. But this is what I was told by Evald Shifer, whom I was able to see in the burns department of Stavropol No 2 City Hospital exactly 24 hours after the accident. The doctors found burns to both hands and forearms—covering 30% of the skin—and to the face:

"I have been working on the gas pipeline for 20 years; it would never have occurred to me to take a decision like that; the order came from production and technical department chief Ilyushchenko. They said: to speed things up! Have I heated pipes like that before? Of course. It's in the order of things...."

Our talk lasted no more than 5 minutes; E. Shifer could hardly bear the pain, and the doctors set about changing his dressings. But there in the same ward, I was able to talk in much more detail with Vyacheslav Potikhonin. He was brought here after an explosion—a different one!—on the Groznyy-Armavir line, which is serviced by the North Caucasus petroleum products pipeline administration. It happened more than 2 months ago.

"Our team was carrying out the task of replacing insulation on a main pipeline that had been in the ground for 10 years," Vyacheslav explained. "I jumped into the trench to level off the insulating tape at a join. Suddenly I heard a crack and smelled solar oil. I realized there was a breach in the pipe somewhere nearby. I shouted to my mate to look out. Then the fire started, I climbed out—everything was in flames. I was running, I was on fire myself. I felt a puddle under my feet, I flung myself headlong into it, I rolled over, my back was on fire, it felt as if my helmet was welded to my head, I passed out with the pain...."

The firemen fought the blaze for 4.5 hours, showing real courage. Doctors Shamil Guseynov and Aubekir Tatarkulov fought day after day for the life of Vyacheslav Tatarkulov, who was brought into the burns department in severe shock, with no pulse, with burns covering one-third of his body and burns to the respiratory tract.

What happened at kilometer 281 of the petroleum product pipeline on that ill-fated November day? Vyacheslav learned from his comrades that, in their opinion, 10 years ago, when the pipeline was laid, a seam on the pipe was not properly welded, and now, in the course of lifting for insulation, it had cracked. The diesel fuel burst out under pressure, caught fire, and exploded. True, the preliminary official version is rather different: "...during the movement of mechanisms the raised pipeline suffered a rupture of a seam in the pipe," that is, there is no mention of faulty welding.

Unfortunately the investigation of this accident has dragged on, the petroleum product pipelines administration in Armavir is delaying its expert report, and to this day those to blame for the accident have not been identified.

As for the gas pipeline explosion, events are too recent to sum up the results. The commission is continuing its work and the prosecutor's office has instituted criminal proceedings. But it is quite obvious that in both accidents there were blatant violations of elementary safety requirements, gross negligence, and terribly bad organization. In both cases specialists were not even designated as responsible for the work, and the people on the spot were operating literally at their own risk, relying on the notorious "off-chance."

Medical Impact of Chernobyl Accident Described

LD311842 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1648 GMT 31 Jan 88

[Text] Moscow, 31 January (TASS)—Leonid Ilyin, chairman of the National Commission for Radioactivity Protection and vice president of the USSR Academy of Medical Sciences, tells in the newspaper SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA today of the medical aspects of the consequences of the accident at Chernobyl atomic power station.

Of the 237 persons who were diagnosed as having "radiation sickness," 28 have died and 209 have been cured. Of them, 24 have become group 1 or group 2 disabled. Most of the people have been socially rehabilitated—they have returned to normal work not, of course, connected with radiation. Only one expert was allowed to return to Chernobyl atomic power station, albeit on condition that he receive only a third of the permitted limit of radiation for that vocation.

These people are considered the high-risk group, and are being monitored twice a year.

A total of nearly 1 million persons are covered by all forms of medical monitoring. 700,000 of these (including 216,000 children) with the application of intensified dosimetric and laboratory methods, and 32,000 persons have been monitored in hospital. An all-union register of those who have been exposed to radiation is being compiled. To be included in it are all persons living in the area of the accident, who have come there temporarily, those recruited to clean up the consequences of the accident, and subsequently their children and grandchildren, and also persons evacuated from the polluted areas. Registration and dosimetric cards of each person under observation have been compiled.

"We have calculated what dose the whole population of the USSR has received as a result of the Chernobyl accident. It transpires that even in the next 50 years the increase per person will amount to 0.12 of a rem (the biological equivalent of a Roentgen). By comparison, the natural background radiation amounts to 0.1-0.2 rem per year." In the calculations of Soviet physicians, the theoretical possibility of a growth in the number of malignant tumors among the population of the USSR, and in particular its European part, over the next 50 years, may amount to hundredths of 1% of the usual level

of cancer cases. Independent of us, such calculations have been made by experts of Western Europe for their own countries; and their estimates amount to hundredths or thousandths of 1% of the usual level. All these estimates show that the danger involved is more of a theoretical than a practical nature."

Komsomol CC Secretary on Youth Problems

LD291445 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 29 Jan 88

[Text] The first session of a special commission combating drunkenness, drug addiction, and crime among young people set up under the Komsomol Central Committee has been held in Moscow. Over to our correspondent (Yelena Katusheva):

[Begin recording] [(Katusheva)] What is to be said? Drunkenness and drug addiction are a terrible evil, and it is even more terrible that this hits young people most often of all, that even juveniles are afflicted and drawn into a dangerous game with their health, their minds, and life itself. The decision to set up a special commission to combat drunkenness, drug addiction, and crime among juveniles was made at the second Komsomol Central Committee plenum. In the commission are Komsomol officials with great work experiance, internationalist servicemen, servicemen in the reserve, and members of the Komsomol volunteer patrol groups, and it is headed by Sergey Nikolayevich Yepifantsev secretary of the Komsomol Central Committee. I met him after the first session of the commission had been held.

Could you enumerate specifically what decisions were made, and what topics Were discussed in these 3 days?

[Yepifantsev] What have we agreed to aim at first and foremost in the immediate future? We are very greatly worried by juvenile crime, by adolescents. The recently adopted government decision reduced the age limit on juvenile employment to 13 years. We have to analyze and consider the employment of adolescents in those regions whre crime is increasing, particularly such phenomena as drug abuse and toxic substances abuse.

What is probably the most serious issue that has recently been arising is the specific forms of criminal activity by adolescents—continual contacts with foreigners, that is, continual attempts to exchange some kinds of things and to use the money earned in this way on their own personal needs, and these needs, unfortunately, are often linked to the range of problems of which I was speaking: drug abuse, toxic substances abuse, drunkenness, speculation. We have planned a series of specific actions, in Moscow, in Moscow Oblast and the Golden Ring. These are the first steps that we plan to take in the near future.

In the long term there is some experience of work in this direction, not only in our country. There is the experience of the fraternal youth leagues. We have reached agreement on joint research in these directions and on practical steps, that is, to use the experience of fraternal youth leagues in our country.

[(Katusheva)] Are you satisfied with the results of your work?

[Yepifantsev] In the narrow sense, in the sense of the first push, I am satified. But in the wider sense, of whether we are deploying our activities efficiently or not, of course not. We are not efficient enought at the moment. Should we succeed in reducing juvenile and adolescent crime, that would probably justify both the entire title of our commission and all our meetings and gatherings, otherwise we will be simply repeating all the obsolete, let's say, forms and methods of work that we condemned at the 20th Komsomol Congress. [end recording]

Religious Affairs Chief on Status of Religion

PM281625 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 27 Jan 88 Morning Edition p 3

[Article by K. Kharchev, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Council for Religious Affairs: "Establishing Freedom of Conscience: 70th Anniversary of the Adoption by the RSFSR Soviet of People's Commissars of the Decree 'On the Separation of Church and State and of School and Church'"]

[Text] It is not simply the round figure which prompts me to address this event. The changes which have affected all aspects of our life could not fail to touch the interests of millions of believers, too, the majority of whom have accepted restructuring and want to actively participate along with everyone else in renewing our society. Thus, this is the very time to compare our approach to freedom of conscience with Lenin's approach.

The slogan freedom of conscience was first put forward by the revolutionary bourgeoisie and interpreted as the individual's inalienable right to freedom of religious convictions. The fundamental characteristic of Lenin's decree is that it asserted the Marxist-Leninist concept of freedom of conscience as the dialectical unity of freedom of religious belief and atheist convictions. This became a policy requirement for the Russian Social Democrats. Justifying it, V.I. Lenin wrote in 1905: "The state should have nothing to do with religion, and religious societies should not be connected with state power. Everyone must be completely free to profess any religion he pleases or to acknowledge no religion, that is, to be an atheist... There must be absolutely no discrimination between the rights of citizens on the grounds of their religious beliefs. Even the mention of citizens' religious beliefs must be unconditionally removed from official documents. There must be no... allocation of state money to church or religious societies, which must be completely free associations of like-minded citizens independent of the authorities."

These principles also formed the basis of the decree "On Freedom of Conscience and Ecclesiastical and Religious Societies" (this document was subsequently ratified under the new title "Decree on the Separation of Church and State and of School and Church") adopted on 20 January (2 February) 1918, 3 months after the October Revolution's victory.

Lenin's decree was not designed to "destroy" or "ban" the church or religion, as our opponents wrote and indeed still do. No, the decree created the legal, organizational, and material conditions and new social atmosphere in which each citizen could freely determine his own attitude toward religion: whether to be a believer or an atheist.

The decree abolished all deprivations of rights connected with religious attitudes. Local organs of power were obliged to take all necessary measures to create the conditions for the free performance of religious rites so long as that does not breach public order and does not involve the infringement of the rights of other citizens and the state.

From that time on "ruling," "permissible," and "persecuted" religious organizations ceased to exist—they all became private societies with equal rights formed on voluntary principles and maintained by believers. When declaring the property of ecclesiastical and religious societies to be the people's asset, the decree envisaged the transfer of religious buildings and property to them for use free of charge.

A democratic spirit and respect for believers' feelings appeared in other articles of the decree, too. It permitted the substitution of one civic duty by another on the grounds of religious beliefs. This norm also extended to instances of exemption from military service. The followers of, for example, the Doukhobor, Mennonite, Molokan, and certain other sects were sent not into the army but to other work and in war time were sent to special commands serving the rear and the front.

The decree's humane and democratic spirit found support and understanding among working people, believers and nonbelievers alike, who, as V.D. Bonch-Bruyevich wrote, universally welcomed the urgently needed Decree on the Separation of Church and State and of School and Church, thus preventing the counterrevolutionary actions of clergymen from succeeding.

Special mention should be made of the separation of education from religion. The Russian Orthodox Church and other religious organizations opposed this provision of the decree. They accused Soviet power of intruding into a sphere of the "people's soul" and "the Christian conscience" which is not subject to state regulation. Numerous collective appeals by believers were inspired demanding that the ban on the teaching of "God's law" in schools be revoked.

For example, in February 1918 the government received the decision of the citizens' assembly in Vyyezdnaya Sloboda village in Nizhniy Novgorod Guberniya, who resolved: "Not to recognize the decrees of the people's commissars and to continue as before: to pray in temples and to teach 'God's law' in schools along with other subjects." In some places the opponents of the decree managed to incite resistance to the measures on the separation of school and church.

Under these conditions the state had to patiently explain that state, social, and private educational institutions where general educational subjects are taught are to be freed from the influence of religion and the church.

At the same time the decree allowed the possibility of private religious study and instruction. Religious instruction could be given in special educational institutions and parents themselves could determine whether or not to give their children religious instruction in the family and whether or not to use ministers of religion for that purpose.

In other words, the decree took equal account of the interests of believers and atheists alike. That created one of the important preconditions of the moral and political unification of working people in creating the "earthly paradise" which V.I. Lenin considered more important "than the unity of the proletariat's views on heavenly paradise."

At the same time V.I. Lenin understood that no matter how important the decree was in itself, much would depend on how it was put into practice. To put its provisions into effect and "not leave them hanging in the air" a special Department for the Implementation of the Decree on the Separation of Church and State headed by the well known Bolshevik P. Krasikov was set up under the RSFSR People's Commissariat of Justice. This was the prototype of future state organs designed to monitor the observance of the law on freedom of conscience and to safeguard its constitutional guarantees. It is appropriate to add here that even then, in addition to explanatory work among the broad mass of believers and the clergy, the department had to counter the attempt by some party and soviet workers to resolve questions of spiritual life not by persuasion and enlightenment but by means of administrative pressure in the belief that the more crudely religious prejudices were attacked the quicker it would be to abolish them.

Our 70-year history shows that the party and state, guided by Lenin's principles, have on the whole pursued a correct course in regard to religion, the church, and believers, thereby maintaining the unity of citizens with materialist and religious world views. Believers, like nonbelievers, actively participated in the building of socialism, the defense of its gains in the civil war and against interventionists, the Great Patriotic War, and the postwar revival. It can be said with certainty that believers and religious organizations operating in our country

have today said "yes" to restructuring. They see in its long-term aims and its first steps and successes a concern to improve the life of the people, preserve peace, and establish principles of social justice and a pure moral atmosphere in society .

It would be wrong, of course, to overlook the debit side.

The negative phenomena of the thirties—the cult of personality, breaches of legality, tyranny, and repression—had an adverse effect upon the conduct of policy regarding religion, the church, and believers. Voluntarist, administrative, command-based, proscriptive, and restrictive measures received support and justification. The result was the mass unjustified closure of places of worship, high-handedness in relation to ministers of religion, and the disregarding of believers' lawful rights and religious feelings, which cannot be recalled today without bitterness. During the years of stagnation a disparity arose between the real religious situation and the polished image created of it.

The course of renewing all spheres of society adopted in April 1985 demands that we reconsider the decree. In so doing it is necessary, in our view, to take account of the specific historical conditions in which it was adopted. At that stage the decree was, first, an instrument for cleansing society of feudal and bourgeois restictions on freedom of conscience, when the church was "in serf-like dependence on the state and Russian citizens were in serf-like dependence on the state church..." and, second, it created the basis for the full realization of the democratic potential of the Marxist-Leninist principle of freedom of conscience in the future as socialism developed.

History decreed that the first task was carried out at the stage of socialist building headed by V.I. Lenin. The solution of the second task was, however, put off for many decades. Only today, when a new political, moral, and psychological situation has arisen in the country, are real conditions for its implementation being created. Under democratization people are talking more clearly about the problems of the functioning of the church in socialist society, and a number of "obstacles" to real freedom of conscience for all are being removed. Religious organizations have markedly stepped up their participation in the peace struggle and the movement to preserve our historical and cultural heritage, and forms of collaboration with social organizations in our country and with progressive movements abroad are being enriched with new content. This is having a beneficial effect on the perception of the world of believing and nonbelieving citizens and is helping them overcome mutual suspicion and prejudice. Nevertheless the practical application of the principles and provisions of the decree and the norms based on it still needs to be improved in many respects. This applies particularly to local workers. Some oppose innovation, saying "concessions" to the church are unacceptable, others, unable to correctly build relations with believers, await instructions from above as to what is to be done in every instance and create red tape when tackling simple issues. This gives grounds for believers to make complaints to Moscow. Last year alone, for example, the Council for Religious Affairs received more than 3,000 complaints. The solution of questions concerning the registration of religious societies in Lvov, Ternopol, Grodno, Kulyab, Perm, and Leningrad Oblasts and in a number of rayons in the Moldavian SSR has dragged on for many years. The long-standing syndrome of prohibition has proved very resilient—in Arkalyk, Kazakh SSR, despite the legitimate protests made by believers, the mosque is under lock and key. The ringing of church bells... is forbidden in Arkhangelsk and Sverdlov Oblasts. Obstacles are placed in the way of the construction and repair of religious buildings in Krasnodar Kray.

Spiritual life based on a world view different from ours goes its own way, follows it own course. It is impossible to prevent it taking that course by administrative means or to fuse it ideologically with our own. But it is possible and necessary to combine the efforts and aspirations of people toward moral and spiritual values common to mankind, peace, and our common good. This unity can and must be ensured even if all of us have in many respects to learn anew, as it were. The improvement of legislation on religious cults and a new interpretation of the principle of freedom of conscience under modern conditions by philosphers and jurists must serve this goal. Here we also have something to learn from fraternal socialist countries.

Recently during a meeting with foreign church figures I was asked whether a believer could live and feel better under socialism than in modern developed capitalist countries. My answer was:

"Yes. The essence of the changes taking place in our country consists in ensuring that a person, regardless of his attitude to religion, feels himself to be master of his fatherland, that everything that is best in him is brought out, and that his thoughts and actions are in full accord with his conscience."

Exemplary Conduct by Communists Exhorted

PM291011 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Jan 88 Second Edition p 1

[Editorial: "By Personal Example: The Duty of Communists Is To Be in the Forefront of Restructuring"]

[Text] The many thousands of primary party organizations and the labor collectives in which they work are leading intense lives now. This is no longer the intensity which was until recently familiar to many, when people's heads reeled from organizational and other disorders and when the first shoots of initiative were irretrievably lost under the pressure of the command and administration method of leadership from above. Of course, the "legacy" of the past is still taking its toll. But increasingly perceptibly people are being gripped by a new form of

intensity. The intensity of conscientious labor, the creative search for reserves for acceleration, and an increased interest in a better understanding of the principles of economic management.

With the entry into force of the Law on the State Enterprise the majority of labor collectives are already working and living according to the principles of full economic accountability, self-financing, self-recoupment, and self-management. This year marks the beginning of the new stage of restructuring. In these conditions Communists must show the utmost cohesion and concentration on the key problems, initiative and competence, and revolutionary efficiency and persistence in implementing plans. In practical terms they must considerably rethink their role as pacemakers. And they must do so in the light of the innovative features of the present period and of the radical difference between past and present-day tasks. To successfully resolve those tasks it is necessary to master new approaches to them and new methods of political influence more quickly, literally as they advance.

The most important thing now is Communists' ability to pool efforts, to mobilize people and inspire them to participate in the selfless struggle for restructuring, involving the broadest masses and each individual in that struggle. Essentially the success of the cause now depends entirely on how fully party organizations are able to reveal and galvanize the human factor and to ensure the vanguard role of Communists everywhere and in everything, particularly in the further democratization of society and the implementation of the radical economic reform.

While expressing the interests and aspirations of the working man, restructuring places him at the center, in the foreground. He must consequently be the sole master who is highly conscientious and enterprising. Improvements are already more noticeable in those places where party organizations are really concerned to provide the appropriate conditions for workers' labor, everyday activity, leisure, and lives in general and where honest and zealous people are really confident that their labor will unfailingly be properly appreciated and that they can always count on Communists' support, above all when it comes to good initiatives, an enterprising approach to work, as well as opposition to slackers, scroungers, bureaucrats, demagogues, captious critics, and others of their ilk. Party members should do everything to prevent the phenomenon of wage-levelling—"wage-padding" and manifestations of parasitism, local favoritism, and departmentalism.

The atmosphere created in the country of openness and glasnost and intolerance toward everything which slows down progress is in many respects the result of the organizational, ideological, and political educational work of Communists in labor collectives at grassroots level. But it would be a mistake to overlook the fact that many party organizations are definitely not keeping pace with the quickening stream of processes and events relating to restructuring. In some places people seem still to be gripped by slogan mania or indecision justified by the strange argument that it is necessary to wait for further instructions so as to avoid mistakes. But what other instructions are needed when a clear concept of restructuring already exists?! It is necessary to stop wasting time and effort on merely talking about restructuring, as S. Balashov, a Communist and worker from Uzbekistan, aptly put it in a letter published in PRAVDA recently.

Here is a letter that has just arrived. "There is a profound point in merging the concepts 'restructuring' and 'revolution'," L. Toroptsov from the "Uralvagonzavod" in Nizhniy Tagil, writes. "Not all Communists have understood this yet. Hence the half-measures, the sluggishness, and the lack of political fervor in people's actions. Often we merely state that shortcomings exist but do nothing to eliminate them and do not reward properly those who work well. A pressing and welding shop was commissioned here 13 years ago but we are still lighting bonfires here: In some sections the temperature drops to minus 5°. But passions ran really high—some people were praised, others criticized, some were given bonuses, others reprimanded—when two powerful hydropresses worth more than R1 million each were made, shipped, and installed. They had 'forgotten' to finish them off properly.... There is a host of facts of that kind. But never mind, we put up with it, confining ourselves to half-criticism and half-complaints. That is where a revolution is needed!"

Yes, it is naive to wait for resolute changes in those party organizations where Communists have still not found the courage to call things by their proper names or to discuss matters openly, including the degree of liability of those responsible for causing shortcomings, failures, and disruptions. The sincerity, directness, and mutual exactingness of Communists and a healthy attitude toward criticism and self-criticism are indispensable prerequisites of the business-like militancy and authority of each party organization. In this context the times insistently dictate the need to increase the effectiveness of meetings and of reports to comrades by CPSU members and candidate members and the monitoring and verification of the execution of decisions and party assignments.

Quite a few shortcomings and omissions, in many respects typical, emerged during the primary party organizations' discussion of the reports of their leading elected organs. It is extremely important not to submerge even a single sensible comment or constructive proposal in a welter of paperwork. Among the mistakes still often made by Communists there is the lack of firmness in implementing the 27th CPSU Congress' principled guideline that the party does not and must not have any organizations which are not under control or exempt from criticism just as it does not and must not have any

leaders protected from party accountability. Many people still have a great fear of offending their "superiors," of opposing them, or of reprimanding toadies and sycophants. This proves yet again the need for primary party organizations to be more thorough in monitoring the activity of the administration and the work of the apparatus in carrying out party and government directives and observing Soviet laws.

A little over 5 months remains until the all-union party conference, which will examine the progress in implementing the 27th CPSU Congress' decisions, the main results of the first half of the 12th 5-Year Plan and party organizations' tasks in deepening the process of restructuring, as well as the measures aimed at the further democratization of the life of the party and society. It is important to prepare efficiently and thoroughly for this landmark in the party's life. It is necessary to implement the restructuring strategy purposefully and persistently. Let every Communist increase the appeal of his personal example and his contribution to the common cause as he follows V.I. Lenin's behest to "lead everyone in terms of labor discipline and energy."

Readers Ponder Interethnic Relations

PM011643 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 Jan 88 Morning Edition p 2

[Article by Yuriy Orlik, deputy editor of the IZVESTIYA Letters Department: "Delicate Subject" under the rubric "Reading the Mail"]

[Text] Since the events in Alma-Ata it has become obvious that we have long been prey to ideas quite a long way removed from life and truth when assessing the state of national relations in our country. In an attempt to understand why this has become possible, L. Golovatskiy from Chimkent bluntly says that "we have not given any serious attention to questions of nationalities policy for several decades." "As I understand it," construction worker N. Kulchinskiy from Poltava writes, "when V.I. Lenin talked about a very cautious approach to the nationalities question, he envisaged an extremely respectful attitude to the national feelings of peoples once oppressed by czarism (it is better to err on the side of compliance and mildness with regard to national minorities) but not the kid-glove treatment in the sense of glossing over the sharp edges of the problem."

For many years we have been satisfied with the formula that in our country the nationalities question is solved. Yes, it is solved in the form in which we inherited it from the past (national oppression and inequality between nations). But to say that there are no problems in this highly delicate area is tantamount to turning a blind eye to very real contradictions. And we have been turning a blind eye. The subject of national relations had essentially been placed beyond the bounds of criticism. Toasts to inviolable friendship and reports of "rapprochement" and "merging" have not brought us closer to our goal but taken us further away from it. This is because, as V. Petrov from Baku writes, at the same time "cadre policy has been violated not only in Kazakhstan, but also in other republics of Central Asia and the Transcaucasus; the very fact that you belong to the indigenous nationality is sometimes a substitute for competency; and there are now professions and positions earmarked for your 'own people' or for 'outsiders.'"

R. Dolmatov from Alma-Ata accompanied his letter with a report by the Alma-Ata Kazakh Communist Party Gorkom Bureau carried by the press and dealing with international and patriotic education, in which he has underlined the following passages: "...In machine building and metal working enterprises Kazakh workers account for only 16.5% of the workforce.... Meanwhile 56% of leading personnel on the gorkom nomenklatura are Kazakhs although only 22.5% of the city's population as a whole are Kazakhs, the figures for Russian representatives being 32 and 60% respectively.... The picture is similar in the apparatus of the local soviets." The decline in the proportion of the indigenous population belonging to the working class and the related growth in parasitical attitudes is also true of certain other republics.

We have talked rapturously about how some of our country's peoples have marched into socialism straight from feudalism. But we have not taken account of the fact that this leap has brought patriarchal tribal customs, a feudal landowner morality, and religious prejudices with it into the present day. However, we will not blame everything on vestiges of the past. "After all, we have developed our own, Soviet landowners," V. Chelmayev from Ust-Kamenogorsk observes in this connection. Incidentally, many readers link negative phenomena in national relations with the general "neglect and lack of control under which our state life and social life have proceeded" (S. Abramyan from Leninakan). "National arrogance is a result of the general decline in morals. Many have forgotten how to be decent people," these lines are from a letter from G. Nikonova from Tyumen, who worked in Uzbekistan for a long time.

Some readers feel that displays of nationalism are flaws in democracy. G. Semenchuk from Kaliningrad, Moscow Oblast, who was a witness in Riga to "a provocative orgy organized by some raving youngsters to honor the birthday of former Latvian President Ulmanis," writes that "the events of 14 June took place in the presence of militiamen on duty who watched the proceedings without intervening in any way." "It was quite obvious," G. Semenchuk continues, "that the organs responsible for keeping the public order had only been instructed to quash acts of open hooliganism. But surely the very fact of such a demonstration should have been prevented? How long are we going to go on pussyfooting with our internal enemies? We should not be afraid of what they will say about us in the West."

It is true that we should not be afraid of what people will say. But we should be afraid of something else—the ease with which order can be instilled with the help of the militia, in the streets but not in people's hearts.

I assume that readers will not suspect me of sympathizing with those who are trying to bring back former presidents—and not only presidents—from historical oblivion. I am talking about something else here. Encountering signs of political dissidence (in this case it would be more accurate to say political ignorance) it is simplest to resort to repressive measures. But you also have to be able to extract political lessons from events, seek and find the real causes of phenomena, and eliminate them. The letter from A. Zhironas from Ventspils in the Latvian SSR is interesting in this respect. Trying to establish why the events of 23 August in the capitals of the Baltic republics had been possible, (they were given broad press coverage at the time) he mentions, in particular, people's poor knowledge of history, especially young people's. "Ignorance of history and 'gaps' in people's knowledge of the not so distant past," he writes, "are put to very skillful use by our ideolgoical enemies...." Discussing an incident in Tallin (young people from the Veysmyae residential district organized a fight with Russian youths, shouting nationalist slogans), K. Kokhberg exclaims indignantly: "My grandfather, a revolutionary since 1905 and an old Bolshevik, gave his life to Soviet power, spent time in jail, did hard labor, was sent to Siberia, and was a member of the Estonian Communist Party Central Committee from 1944 onwards. My father, an honest Communist, fought at the front in the Great Patriotic War. So I have a right to call party, soviet, and Komsomol workers in the republic to account for making a bad job of educating young people in a spirit of internationalism."

Readers' letters are not scientific treatises. They are made up of thoughts and impressions engendered by contact with the real contradictions of real life. That is why we should not make the same demands on the authors of these letters as we rightly make on scientists—depth of analysis of the subject concerned, consideration of all factors, and well adjusted, well considered opinions. Especially in view of the fact that scientists have nothing to boast of in their research of national relations. Treatises of a "congratulatory" nature have merely lulled people's minds. The real dramas of life often escape journalists' attention.

"I am an Uzbek and want to marry a Russian girl," G.P. from Tashkent writes. "Hearing of my decision, my family raised a great uproar. They accused me of everything under the sun. They said I was a kofur, that is, an infidel, that I had betrayed my nation, and that sooner or later such families break up. And this was only one side of the matter. I have an older sister and a younger brother. According to my family, they will be given a rough ride too if I marry this Russian girl. My sister will never find a husband, my brother will never find a wife—a curse looms over our house."

A large section of the mail is concerned with the problems of national-Russian bilingualism and attitudes to national culture and history. It is probably sensible to devote a special survey to this subject.

At this point, however, I would like to draw attention to common or garden nationalism (chauvinism) and give some thought to what feeds it. On a psychological level, nationalism is egoism and self-love. It divides everyone into "us and them," the "pure" and the "impure." This is discussed in particular by K. Karina from Moscow, who talks about the persistent stereotyped images of various ethnic groups which are insulting to national dignity. Here is a typical letter. Mentioning "Dzhugashvili and Beria" as the cause of all our misfortunes, M. Shulga from Krasnodar Kray makes the point that "life is made impossible for Russian workers by Caucasian speculators." Yes, prejudices do not die easily. Incidentally, this is precisely because they are notions which have not been tested by reason (prejudice) [a pun on reason—rassudok—and prejudice—predrassudok] or intellect. Conscious hostility toward others defies all logic. Knowledge is fatal for prejudice. It feeds on ignorance.

Encountering manifestations of nationalist prejudice, we should not dramatize events or panic. This would only play into the hands of extremists and social demagogues. "Even in the most exemplary families," V. Bochin from Nukus, honored cultural worker in the Karakalpak ASSR, stresses, "misunderstanding, friction, and conflict sometimes arise. This is even more of a possibility in relations between nations."

We must learn to remove them painlessly and build up our experience of democratically organizing national life and international relations. In this respect everything must be discussed frankly, honestly, and in good time.

Readers write that representatives of our country's different ethnic groups do not know enough about each other and do not have enough informal contact. "Yes, the revolution proclaimed equality between nations," N. Golovin from Kerch remarks. "But surely this does not mean that people of different nationalities are going to automatically fall into each other's arms? I would like to have brothers who are Estonians, Latvians, Lithuanians, Moldavians, Armenians, Kazakhs, and Uzbeks. We could visit one another for a start. I can just imagine it. I am over 50 years old. By profession I am an electronics worker, a teacher, and a candidate of sciences. My wife is a printer and loves books. True, we only have a one-room apartment, but surely this does not mean that there is no room for friends?"

I would like to conclude my review on this optimistic, heartfelt note.

Reader Calls for Clampdown on 'Parasites'

PM291626 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 Jan 88 Second Edition p 1

[Letter from A. Pavlenko under the rubric "Topical Theme", the general heading "Order Begins With People," and the subhead "Lines From Letters": "Living Is Easy for Parasites"]

[Text] Kharkov—I am very worried that parasites and vagrants have sprung up here in the Ukraine. These people do not work anywhere, they live an idle life. Living is very easy for them. Yet at the plants there is an acute shortage of manpower.

I think the strictest measures should be adopted against parasites. For instance, if someone is unwilling to work in Kharkov, let us send him to the north, let him work there. At present we are very lenient toward people in this category. Yet they—forgive my bluntness—insolently violate all the rules of socialist communal living.

Estonian Historian Counters VOA View of Origins

LD291508 Moscow TASS in English 1443 GMT 29 Jan 88

[Text] Tallinn January 29 TASS—Correspondent Tamara Kalantar writes:

February 1918 witnessed a drama in the history of the Estonian people, said Raimo Pullat, director of the Institute of History of the Estonian Academy of Sciences. It was the time when a bourgeois dictatorship was established in Estonia.

In its recent broadcasts in Estonian the Voice of America urges the inhabitants of this Soviet Baltic republic to celebrate the anniversary of that dictatorship and demagogically calls it the birth of Estonian statehood, Pullat said with indignation in the TASS interview.

"The historic truth that the Western 'voices' pointedly ignore is that Estonia achieved genuine statehood not in February 1918 but a year earlier—on October 1", the historican stressed. "It was already on October 26, a day after the victory of the October Revolution in Petrograd, that Soviet power was established in Tallinn and a few days later in Tartu, Narva and other Estonian towns. The work of Bolshevik committees in Estonia was headed by Victor Kingisepp, the centenary of whose birth is being marked in the Soviet Union this year".

"Those who try to falsify the actual course of events avoid mentioning that the so called bourgeois democracy was imposed on Estonia's working people by the German kaiser's army. By February 1918 German regular troops had advanced to Tallinn from the south and the islands", Pullat went on.

"Already several days later the German occupation troops set up concentration camps on the islands and in a Tallinn suburb and turned the Tallinn grain storage into a prison", Pullat stated. "More than a hundred Estonian patriots were executed those days in Tartu alone".

The bourgeois republic was protected not only by the German troops which by then were already in full control also of Latvia, Pullat said further. The British Navy entered the Gulf of Finland to assist them. "The German authorities reacted negatively to any attempt by the Baltic peoples to proclaim their independence. They began to form the so called Baltic Duchy on the territory of Latvia and Estonia", the historian stressed. "But the Estland labour commune was already being formed late in 1918 in the north of Estonia, in the big industrial city of Narva, and served as a prototype for the Soviet Estonian Republic. That is why we rightly call the restoration of Soviet power in Estonia in the summer of 1940 a restoration of historic justice", Raimo Pullat stressed.

Volkogonov on 'Cruelty,' 'Tragedy' of Stalin

LD300200 Moscow Television Service in Russian 2150 GMT 29 Jan 88

[From the "Vzglyad" program]

[Text] In one of our programs last year, we showed an interview with Dmitriy Antonovich Volkogonov, deputy head of the Chief Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and Navy and doctor of philosophical sciences. He talked about his book on Stalin. This interview aroused a great deal of response from our television viewers, and a while ago our correspondent Elene Kovaleva had another meeting with Dmitriy Antonovich. She asked him to comment on viewers' letters.

[Kovaleva] Dmitriy Antonovich, these are just some of the letters which arrived at Central Television addressed to our program following your appearance when you talked about your new book "Triumph and Tragedy" [Triumf i Tragediya]. Some letter-writers reproach you for being overly soft; others, on the contrary, accuse you of being too hard and even harsh in regard to Stalin.

[Volkogonov] I never dreamed there would be such colossal interest in that individual. I think the interest is less in the individual than in our country, which for many decades resembled a dark, deserted street; a history virtually without people. Some are primarily in support of most of what I say. But some consider that I trample on Stalin; others think I am trying virtually to reanimate him. Some people suggest I should throw a positive light on him; others, a negative light. Such an approach, I think, is unacceptable. It seems to me to be important to proceed by painting Stalin's political portrait just as he was, to follow truth as the sole criterion. Well, you can't always please everyone. The truth alone; arguments, the muscles of an idea. [as heard]

I have talked to hundreds of people who knew Stalin personally, and I came to the conclusion that for that man cruelty [zhestokost] was quite simply an inalienable attribute of his being. What astounds me most, having looked at very many documents, is that he even manifested that cruelty toward people he knew. For instance, when Yakir, after his arrest, having been condemned to death—the death penalty was carried out quickly, sometimes the very same evening, and within 24 hours at the maximum—wrote a letter to Stalin and managed to get it

to him somehow. Stalin wrote some pretty indecent words, when he read it—villain and prostitute. Alongside, Kaganovich, Molotov, and Voroshilov left signatures almost as indecent. [Video shows Volkogonov taking up sheafs of papers]

Or here, Dybenko, a well-known civil war hero: Dear Comrade Stalin—he had been arrested and writes that a fatal mistake had been made. Please, Comrade Stalin, I beg you, get to the bottom of a whole number of facts, investigate further, and erase this shameful blot which I have not deserved. I have never been, and shall never be, Debenko writes, an enemy of the Leninist-Stalinist party and of our motherland. I have always been, and ever shall be the most devoted soldier of our party and motherland. Within 24 hours he was shot. [Video shows copy of typed letter addressed to Molotov, Voroshilov, Zhdanov, and Stalin, beginning: By decision of the Politburo and the government of 25 January of this year... I have been declared an enemy of the people, the motherland and the party]

[Kovaleva] Excuse me, Dmitriy Antonovich, how do you regard the fact that in spite of now being aware of this cruelty as a fact, people nevertheless do not want to believe it?

[Volkogonov] I think that in this case, arguments alone can throw light upon their awareness. Stalin really was a part of our life; entire generations grew up with Stalin, and there is a great deal tied up with this: successes, achievements, deeds, intentions, dreams and hopes, difficulties and victories. Stalin was there, he was part of the fabric of our life, and he therefore took on the characteristic of an organic element of it. People believed in this very strongly. I think that only calm—emotions are not needed here, I think, the way we often react to things—precisely calm, well thought-out revelation of the pages of our history which are unknown, only this can put everything properly in their right places.

You know, I have even met people who were in prison for 10 or 12 years and who nevertheless remain Stalinists, as they used to be called. Convictions and education at that time were considerably realized through and based upon belief in an idea, in ideals. This is not a bad thing. But there must be truth in addition to belief. If there is no truth, then this belief can become simply fanatical, and not far from religious belief. It seems to me that the nature and causes of the cult are considerably deeper than they often appear at first glance. First and foremost, there is the lack of people's power [narodovlastiye], and of democracy. The model, the view, the approach and the concept which Lenin drew up was taken over in words by Stalin, but he repudiated all the democratic attributes, and under his influence socialism essentially started to be built in a bureaucratic, dogmatic way, by force, I would say. Hence derive many evils.

The second reason, which is rarely mentioned, but which I think is a very important one, is the not very high and sometimes rather low level of political culture of both the people and also of many party members. For instance, I happened to familiarize myself with documents when Bukharin spoke at the last plena. They would not even let him speak. There were shouts of scoundrel, spy. They would not even give him the chance to express his point of view, this man who was neither an enemy nor a spy, of course. But simply, I would say, the low level of political culture, the lack of good, genuine, and democratic traditions could not but make themselves felt, sooner or later.

Last, I ought to mention another cause; namely, the capitalist encirclement. The continual threat of intervention created a situation in which restriction of democracy appeared to be justified and which created the prerequisites for the administrative and legislative measures which would restrict real democracy.

I would include among the reasons phenomena such as responsibility of those around him. Everyone talks only about Stalin. Yes, Stalin is indeed the main culprit for the negative things that happened. But what of those immediately around him? I have mentioned Kaganovich and Molotov today to say nothing of that degenerate Beria. It is terrible even to talk about him. I have seen so many documents about all that. There really was nothing human in him, and Stalin must have known, when he conferred on him the Star and made him Hero and Marshal of the Soviet Union, that Beria was a degenerate whom it is hard to imagine might have walked the earth. He was a degenerate who, incidentally, loved listening to Prokofyev, classical music; that is, one often finds anomalies like that. I do not want to place others alongside him, but very many of those immediately surrounding Stalin in the thirties in particular were submissive; they indulged him and essentially conformed to all his decisions.

The last thing I want to mention is something we do not talk about at all; that is, our common responsibility. We always say that the popular masses are the deciding force in history, and in the final analysis it is always like that. But there was a cataclysm, essentially a social cataclysm—I would describe it more precisely as a moral cataclysm—in the destinies of many people. But what of all the rest of the people? I understand it is hard to say how one can utter a protest, come forward, even though there were even at that time people who did not blindly agree with everything about Stalin and his speeches. But I think that the Stalin tragedy has set a good and major lesson—a good lesson, well, good is not the right word—a major lesson in the sense that the social responsibility of each individual, group, class, and society is immeasurably growing in our time. I would even say that real conscience always has its chance. [video shows Volkogonov leafing through more papers, including letter from a V.I. Kiselev, identified from official cataloging form on front of file]

Economic

Slyunkov, Others Address Party Secretaries

LD232222 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1620 GMT 23 Jan 88

[Text] Economics studies for secretaries of the Central Committees of Communist Parties of the union republics and party kraykoms and obkoms, and of deputy chairmen of the Councils of Ministers of union and autonomous republics and of krayispolkoms and oblispolkoms who are in charge of questions of industry and construction have been completed at the Institute for Raising the Qualifications of Leading Party, local Soviet and Ideological Cadres of the Academy of Social Sciences under the CPSU Central Committee.

Key questions concerning the further improvement of party leadership of the economy and raising the role and responsibility of local soviet and economic organs in the second stage of restructuring were reviewed.

Ways of restructuring the activity of republican, kray, and oblast organs of government and of organizing collaboration with enterprises and associations operating under financial autonomy were discussed. A wide exchange of opinions took place about forms and methods of the work of party committees and soviets of people's deputies under the conditions of the radical economic reform and the development of democracy and self-management of labor collective.

A report and a concluding address on the results of the studies was delivered by Comrade Slyunkov. Comrades Zaykov and Dolgikh and leaders of ministries and departments addressed the students.

Rytov Says State Acceptance 'Coping Quite Well'

PM011401 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Jan 88 Morning Edition p 1

[Yu. Rytov article under the rubric: "Statistics and Our Commentary": "Quality Standards Are Rising"]

[Text] The State Committee for Statistics reports: In December 1987 the state acceptance system rejected output worth R45 million or 0.4% of the total volume of goods submitted to it. Output worth R53 million has been totally rejected as defective.

The figures will possibly seem extremely modest to the reader. Was it worth, they say, making an unnecessary fuss and setting up a huge monitoring apparatus to "fish out" defective goods, which are measurable in mere tenths of a percentage point? Almost every day the editorial mailbag uncovers examples of a skeptical attitude toward state acceptance.

"How many 'rejection' organizations are there like yours?" S.I. Britvin from Ust-Kamenogorsk asks. "You can't count them. Legal inspection. The sanitary and epidemiological station. The equipment safety service. The fire service, the State Committee for the Supervision of Safe Working Practices in Industry [gostekhnadzor], and the Power Industry Supervisory body. Technical control departments. Now, the state acceptance. A body which has unlimited power regarding production. What is the result of its 'rejection'? Call in at any workshop that performs repairs under guarantee and you will see for yourself—you can't call the result anything but meager...."

Well, let us try to investigate this. I would above all like to remind the readers of a most important document published in July 1986—the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers resolution "On Measures to Radically Boost Output Quality." What did it talk about? A comprehensive systemic approach to resolving a key problem and one which, perhaps, might be called irksome. The struggle for high quality of goods at all stages in their manufacture. At the design and technological development stage. At the evaluation and series output certification stage.

State acceptance is, understandably, by no means a panacea for all the ills caused by the goods' low technical standard or low consumer qualities. Its main function is to ensure that series output meets existing technical conditions and standards.

Thus, in my opinion, state acceptance is coping quite well with its function. We have managed to reinforce technological discipline and put an end to shoddy work regarding the technological aspect, albeit in just one link of the production cycle. As for tenths of a percent... The figures look quite different if you correlate them with the end economic result. For instance, over just a 9-month period last year, output worth R9 billion was accepted after finishing work and a second submission. Yes, people had to work and rectify imperfections but then instead of sham billions we received real billions....

Nor must we forget something else. After the introduction of state acceptance the moral atmosphere at enterprises also greatly changed. Qualitative criteria of work have appreciably displaced old approaches to the matter based on the notorious motto "the plan at any price...."

Nonetheless, I repeat, state acceptance is only one element in the whole gamut of our efforts to improve output quality. But what is taking place in the other elements?

I looked at the USSR State Committee for Statistics report for 11 months of last year on the technical standard of production in industry. From it you can see that the introduction of new equipment and progressive technologies and the updating of manufactured output is proceeding, by and large, in accordance with planned projections. Thus, the proportion of open-cut coal extraction has reached 42.4% (the target for the year is 42.8%). The proportion of finished rolled metal in steel

smelting amounted to 74.1 percent (74.5). The proportion of synthetic fibers and threads in the overall total production of chemical fibers and threads is 59.6% (60.3).

What about the machine building complex? In 9 months output was renewed 7.2%. (The annual plan is 7.6%).

Yet another question arises here. What precise impact did the use of new equipment and technologies have on output quality? How does its technical level now correlate with world standards?

I telephoned I.I. Isayev, USSR State Committee for Standards deputy chairman.

"In the overall total production," he said, "14.2% of output now conforms with world standards. If you take output liable to certification then most of it (60%) is a match for world standards. We are achieving this by means of revising and tightening standards. In machine building, for example, more than 50% of standards meet international requirements. All this work of revising standards must be completed by 1 January 1990. In 1990 we must fully introduce them into production. That is, in the next 5-year plan all our output will conform with world standards..."

The deputy chairman probably perceived a skeptical note in my voice and so he added:

"Have no doubt... The figures are accurate and the task is quite practicable."

I am not in any doubt. But an abridged survey of the U.S. press prepared by the USSR Academy of Sciences Scientific Information on Social Sciences Institute lies in front of me. It is devoted to the new U.S. financial initiatives in building up scientific and technical potential. The U.S. press comments animatedly on the so-called "Bill on Competitiveness"—the administration's proposals designed to "ensure the nation's capabilities to conduct a competitive struggle on the world market in the 21st century."

I will not relate the content of this document. But the conclusion to be drawn from it is quite obvious. The level of international quality standards is not standing still and will not stand still!

Of course, we must look at matters realistically and not set ourselves extreme tasks. Nor can we flatter ourselves, however, with what we have already managed to do. In our present concern to boost output quality in every way let us not forget to prepare a new qualitative spurt. In equipment. In technology. And ultimately—in the consumer qualities of manufactured items.